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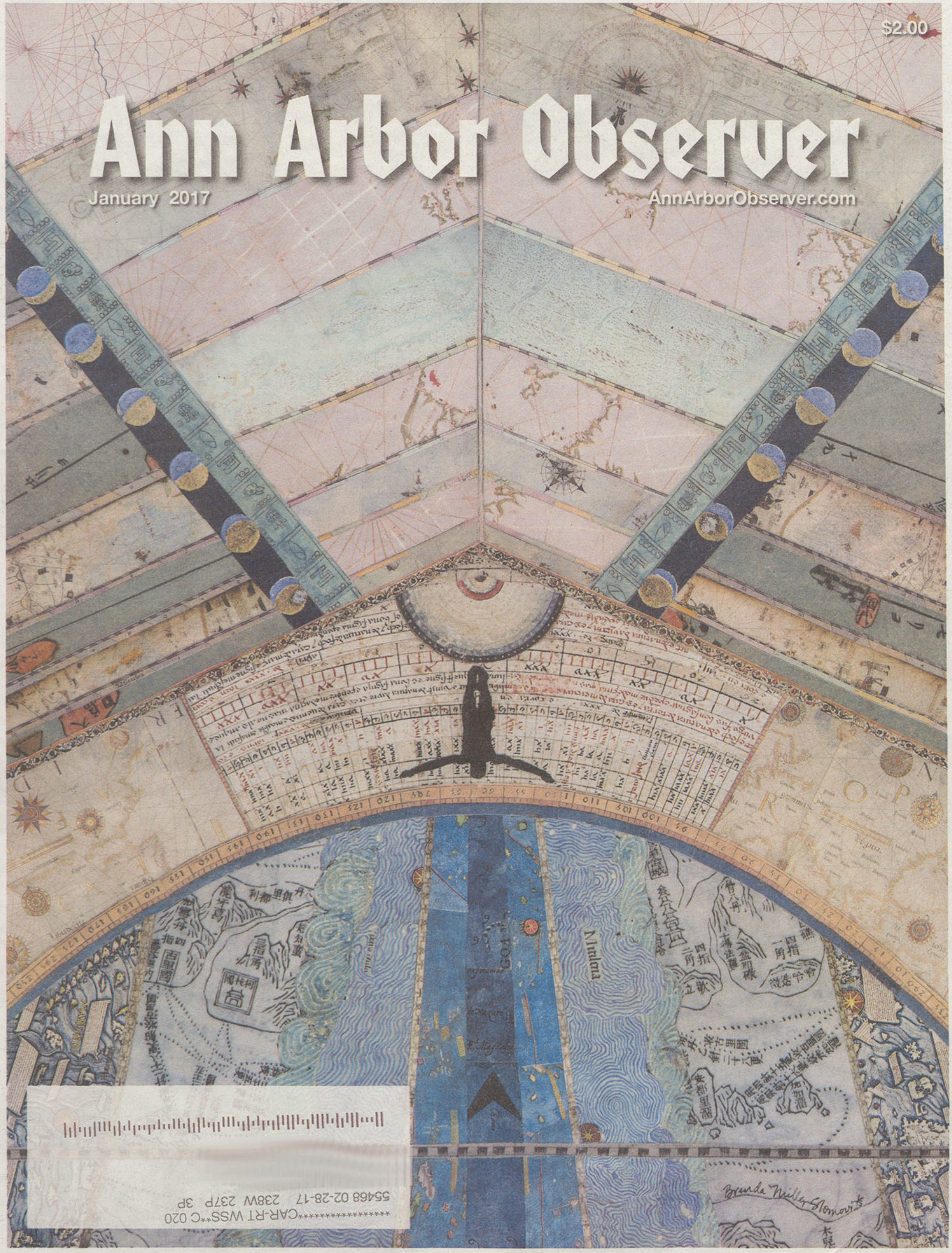

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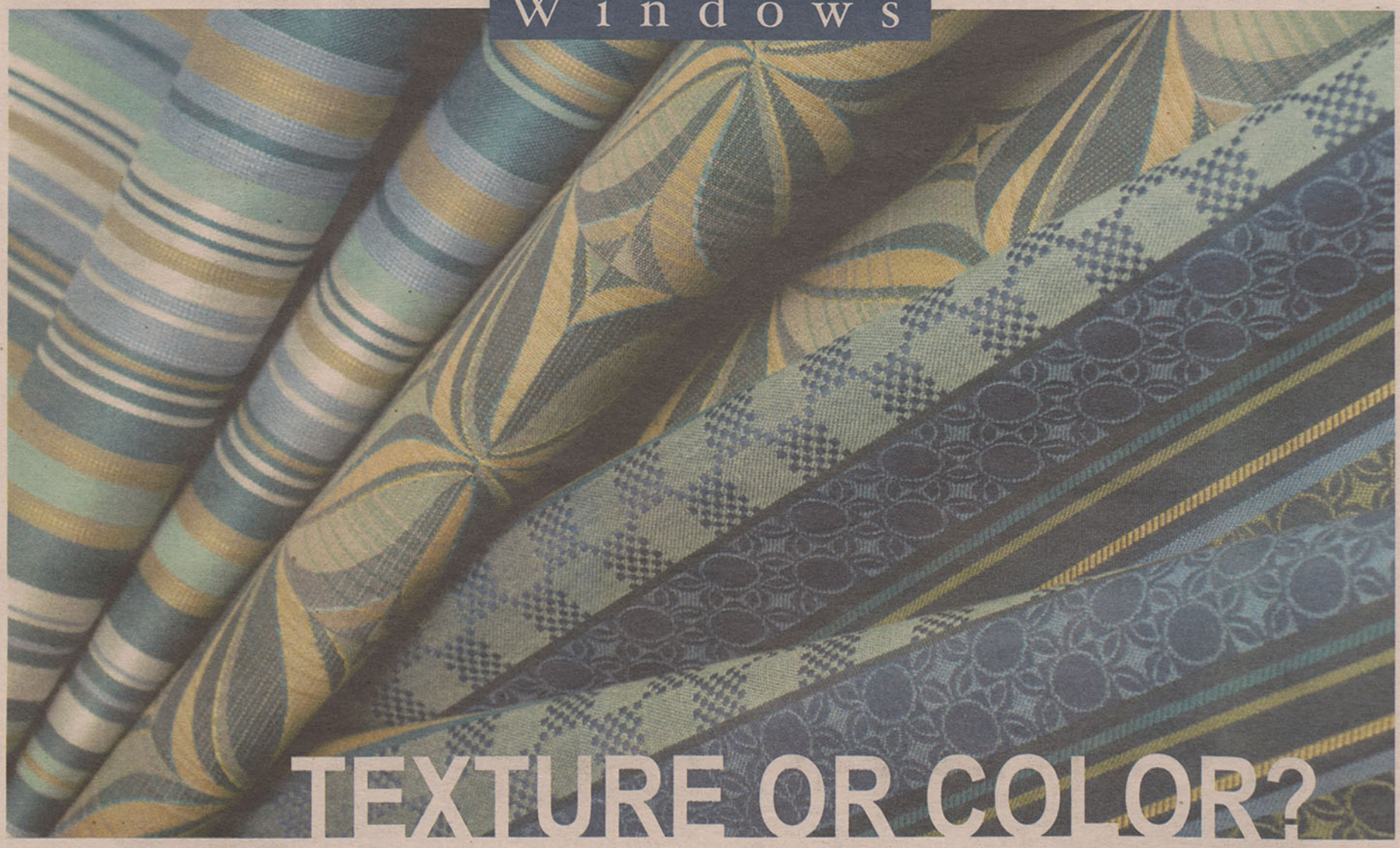

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UpFront

Software blues: Human resource information system (HRIS) companies promise the sun, the moon, and the stars. But they sometimes deliver an asteroid—and Ann Arbor's been hit twice.

When the City of Ann Arbor switched to Ultimate Software's UltiPro system in 2008, the company told *Business Wire* that the city "is on its way to saving approximately $540,000 over a five-year period. The organization hopes to achieve another $500,000 in soft-cost savings."

City administrator Howard Lazarus got here only last year, but he says the software probably did save the city money. "UltiPro was the first true HRIS for the City, so it is safe to assume that the cost savings came from a significant reduction in labor costs for routine administrative tasks," he emails. But according to human resources director Robyn Wilkerson, staff ran into problems with functionality, upgrades, and other issues—and grew increasingly frustrated with the company's support. A June 2014 staff report complained that in six years, Ultimate had churned through at least seven "customer relationship managers" and at least fifteen "customer service representatives."

So council voted to switch to a competing system called NuView. This time, the estimated five-year savings was $775,967.

NuView's first phase was supposed to go live in January 2015. But the setup fell behind schedule, so in September 2014, the city had to issue an emergency $250,000 purchase order to extend the UltiPro contract. The 2016 budget vowed to "fully implement NuView HR and Payroll modules," but once again it didn't happen. Instead, after paying NuView $614,470, the city signed a new five-year contract with Ultimate.

Getting the right HRIS "is evolutionary and continual in nature," Lazarus writes. But NuView is definitely in the rearview: the administrator says that "the City is considering its options to recover all or part of the payments made to NuView, which may require some form of legal action."

Training intervenors: "Ever since the election, people have been calling our office saying 'What can I do?'" says Chuck Warpehoski, director of the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice (and Ann Arbor city councilmember). The callers feared that immigrants and other minorities targeted in presidential campaign rhetoric might be subject to harassment.

When ICPJ held a meeting on the topic, more than 150 people showed up. One popular idea was "bystander intervention training." Thirty-two people slogged through a snowstorm to attend the first training session in December, so ICPJ set up another—and then scheduled two more, on January 8 and 28 (see icpj.org for details).

The $20 training sessions simulate potential conflicts, such as someone being taunted for speaking Spanish on a bus, or a transgender person denied access to the bathroom of their choice. The idea, says Warpehoski, is to teach "some ways you may be able to keep people safe—to de-escalate the situation." In discussions afterwards, he says, participants who played victims of harassment described their relief when someone "put their body between them and their aggressor … It's very eye-opening."

Warpehoski has also seen an uptick in requests for "One Human Family" banners and signs the ICPJ started selling last March. In six weeks after the election, it sold 600 of the signs, which announce, "We support refugees and our Muslim neighbors."

As though someone wanted to make the point that they were needed, one in Chelsea was defaced.

Ripple effect: In December, people who normally swim at the Ann Arbor Y were unexpectedly plunged into unfamiliar waters at the city's Mack Indoor Pool and the county's Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center—all because of a simple project to upgrade the Y pools' lights with more efficient LEDs.

Replacing the bulbs "was no big deal," says Y president and CEO Toni Kayumi. "It would have been happening in the evenings and on the weekends." But as the electricians worked, a piece of glass broke off a fixture, fell to the pool deck, and shattered, which is how they learned that some of the hardware attaching the lights had been weakened by years of exposure to humidity and chlorine vapor. "And there was broken glass," says Kayumi.

To be sure it was all cleaned up, the Y had had to drain both pools. And they "decided they had to take all of the fixtures down," explains Vedder Electric manager Matt Whybark, to check and re-secure them.

Fortunately, Kayumi says, the city and county "graciously allowed our swimmers to go to their pools at no charge … Both of those governmental agencies were wonderful in coming to our rescue and helping us out." And, she laughs, the extensive work at least provided entertainment for Y members working out upstairs. A window wall in the gym looks out on the pool area, so "while they've been on the recumbent bikes they have been watching the whole process." As the Observer went to press, she expected her swimmers would be back home before Christmas.

My Girlfriend Beru: The name of the U-M student band My Girlfriend Beru "comes from a really unnecessary scene" in a Star Wars movie, says Daniel Rothenberg, a senior majoring in earth science. It's so obscure that if you Google the phrase, the first couple of pages are about the band, not the movie—links to the group's social media, concert listings, and opportunities to listen to their songs via everything from iTunes to Spotify to YouTube.

Rothenberg, Michael Zimmer, Kevin Allen, and Theo Czajkowski met at New Beat Happening, a U-M student-run concert booking organization. Allen, a senior at Ross School of Business, says they make music with "punk influence and a lot of pop sensibility." Most of their songs are about relationships, with touches of Dylanesque storytelling put to punk and indie band rhythms.

Allen works part time at the Blind Pig, and they got a good turnout there when they released their first EP last March. "For bands starting out in a college town, you really just have to do everything you can—to play in front of as many people as you can, from house parties to big venues," he explains. "It starts with personal connections, telling your friends, joining student organizations."

The four seniors hope to stay together after graduation but recognize that their careers may pull them in different directions. So before they graduate in April, they plan to put out a second EP and their first full album.

As always, they'll do the marketing themselves. "We are the sole promoters of our band," says Rothenberg, "along with the support of our loved ones." ■

ILLUSTRATIONS: TABITHA WALTERS

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Missing Money

"He screwed up pretty massively," says Alex Yerkey.

COURTESY JACK EATON

At the Ann Arbor Democratic Party's December meeting, treasurer Alex Yerkey dropped a bombshell: party chair Mike Henry had written unauthorized checks totalling $3,800 to a nonprofit he controlled.

Yerkey is the treasurer of the Ann Arbor Democratic Party. He's talking about Mike Henry, the city party's charismatic, controversial chair.

In an October interview, Henry said that he was invited to co-chair the party in 2010 and became sole chair in 2012. It was divided then, he says, and still is: "There are five different factions of the local party, and they range from the anarchist to Tea Party."

Member Susan Baskett says she discovered the Ann Arbor Dems during her first school board campaign in 2003, but "what really got me more engaged is Mike's enthusiasm and his ability to engage others." The gregarious party chair also did more fundraising. "When I first started we did the Labor Day picnic," he said. "Since I've been chair we've grown. The party likes to party." There's now a spring chili cook-off, a Fourth of July barbecue, and a winter gala as well. Yerkey says that with "a couple extra events related to the presidential election," the AADP raised nearly $20,000 in 2015 and 2016.

Between its four annual fundraisers and "a couple of extra events related to the presidential election," Yerkey says, the AADP raised nearly $20,000 in 2015 and 2016.

After 2014, however, Henry no longer had direct access to those funds. "He made cash withdrawals to pay vendors but with no receipts to back them up," Yerkey explains. "We decided he was not someone who should be handling money, and rules were passed that said the chair is not to handle money."

Henry "believes he can make it work even on the fly, and sometimes he can, and that's great for some things," the treasurer says. "But for things like finances, where you need to be detail oriented and that can't and shouldn't be done on the fly, it's a net negative."

Henry's improvisational style got him in trouble again this past summer, when he neglected to get word out in a timely way about a planned June forum for candidates in August's Democratic primary. "I had heard from a couple of candidates that they had not received an invitation to participate in the forum," emails councilmember Jack Eaton. "This is not unusual. Last year, a few candidates did not receive any invitation."

Diane Giannola, one of two Democrats running against Ward Four incumbent Graydon Krapohl, thought she saw political favoritism at work. "I tried to find out about it because I was not contacted," she said in a phone call last summer. "I called Mike, and he screamed at me that he didn't know!"

Henry recalled it differently: "I called her about the candidate forum [because] people had scheduling issues, and she went on this tirade about people stabbing her in the back!"

"They're an illegitimate group," Giannola said at the time. They're not "an official branch of the Democratic Party."

"There's no official relationship," Henry agreed. "The county party is an official arm of the Democratic Party. We are not." Though it sometimes makes endorsements, he said its primary purpose is educational.

Those weren't Henry's only troubles. When county commissioner Conan Smith resigned his seat on the board last fall, Henry applied to take his place—then quickly withdrew when he discovered he didn't live in Smith's district.

Henry had recently moved, and county commissioner Andy LaBarre calls it "a simple mistake." But then onetime mayoral candidate Pat Lesko emailed LaBarre questioning many details of Henry's resume. When the Observer asked Henry about that in October, he said that he was too busy with the election to answer questions. By mid-December, he still hadn't responded.

By then, Yerkey had uncovered a much more serious problem: last summer, Henry wrote two unauthorized checks totaling $3,800.

"He is not given a checkbook for a reason," Yerkey says. "However he was an authorized signer on the account, and he got emergency checks from the credit union."

Yerkey says Henry used the money to make "an unauthorized loan to a nonprofit called the Citizens Education Law Clinic. Its mission was to bring people with legal expertise to poorer places in Michigan. The director was Mike Henry."

As Yerkey understands it, "There was a paid internship program that started in the clinic, and at the time Mike did not have the money to cover it, and he thought it was a short-term thing and he could raise the money to replace it before it was missed."

He couldn't. At the party's December meeting, "during the financial report it was revealed that Mike had difficulties with party funds," Eaton says. "He apologized and said he'd repay. Then Mike announced he's not going to run again" for party chair.

"I don't know why he thought it was a good idea," Yerkey says with a sigh. "I guess he felt personally responsible, and this was a pot of cash for a bridge loan. I can understand the argument he would make. The organization's mission is aligned with Ann Arbor Dems'. But I don't agree that we should be a loaning organization."

By mid December, Henry had repaid $1,400. "He's still committed to repaying all of it," Yerkey says. "It's a lot of money and tough to fundraise in this situation, but he says if he can't fundraise it, he'll personally repay it by the end of the year."

"It's important to understand the reasons that this was done," Yerkey says of the misappropriation. "Mike wanted to make a difference, and that's a noble goal, but with incredibly bad execution."

Yerkey and the rest of the party leadership have also chosen not to stand for re-

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A2 STEAM	Tuesday	2/28/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Bach Elementary	Thursday	2/09/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Bryant/Pattengill*	Thursday	2/23/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Burns Park Elementary	Tuesday	2/28/17	6:00 - 8:00 pm
Carpenter Elementary*	Tuesday	2/28/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Dicken Elementary*	Thursday	2/23/17	6:00 - 8:00 pm
Eberwhite Elementary*	Thursday	2/02/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Haisley Elementary*	Thursday	2/16/17	6:30 - 7:30 pm
King Elementary	Thursday	2/23/17	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Lakewood Elementary*	Tuesday	2/28/17	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Lawton Elementary*	Thursday	2/09/17	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Logan Elementary*	Wednesday	2/22/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Mitchell Elementary*	Tuesday	2/21/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Pittsfield Elementary	Thursday	2/23/17	6:30 - 8:00 pm
Thurston Elementary	Thursday	2/16/17	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Wines Elementary	Tuesday	2/07/17	6:30 - 7:30 pm
District Kindergarten readiness screening (Drop in, no appointment necessary)			
W.Scott Westerman Preschool & Family Center	Saturday	3/18/17	10am - 1pm

*Young Fives programs offered only at these schools.
Children must turn five years old between May 1 and December 1, 2017.

election. Their successors will be elected in January.

As the Observer went to press, Baskett was running unopposed for chair. She's sorry Henry's tenure is ending this way, but says his financial mismanagement "is unforgivable."

The new leaders "will review the by-laws and protocols in place, and I will not go around the protocols—especially in terms of finances" Baskett vows. "I don't see a need to have access to the checkbook!"

Deer Cull 2.0

This year's cull will be shorter, but sterilizations will add to the cost.

In November, city council approved a second winter deer cull by a vote of 9–2. As it did last year, the city will hire sharpshooters to kill up to 100 deer in closed city parks. But instead of two months, city CFO Tom Crawford says this year's cull will be just "two weeks for lethal [and] one week for nonlethal, three weeks in total. They might overlap, and they might not."

The nonlethal component will be surgical sterilization of forty to sixty does. Working on private property by permission, contractors will "get close, dart them, and remove the deer," says Crawford, who's running this year's cull. "They then take it to a place to sterilize it, [inject it with] long-lasting antibiotics, and then put it back near to where it was picked up."

Adding sterilizations grew out of talks with opponents of last year's plan. "We met with Bob McGee [founder of Ann Arbor Residents for Nonlethal Deer Management] and other citizen groups, FAAWN and Ann Arbor Citizens for Public Safety," Crawford says. "They all expressed [a desire] to explore nonlethal, and they helped us come up with a vendor that proposed a combination [of] nonlethal along with the lethal plan this year."

"Ann Arbor residents report too many deer in the city," says mayor Christopher Taylor. "[There are] more deer than there used to be, and that has an impact on people's residential experience and natural area experience."

Yet as he did last year, Taylor voted against the cull. "The shooting of deer, the use of guns in Ann Arbor parks and natural areas, is inconsistent with the broad community ethos," he explains. "It shakes a substantial proportion of residents and makes them feel different about their home and their sense of community in a way that is very meaningful to them."

Tanya Hilgendorf, the head of the Humane Society of Huron Valley, also remains resolutely opposed. "We don't have an overpopulation problem," she says. "We have a 'people who are frustrated with landscaping concerns' problem. Urban deer are here to stay. You can't kill them all, and you can't keep them out. You cannot shoot your way back to 1952!" (Actually 1982 would be more like it—that's when deer first appeared in Barton Hills on a migration that soon reached the city.)

Support for the cull is strongest where deer are most numerous, in Ward Two north of the river. Asked if the cull is needed, Ward Two rep Kirk Westphal is emphatic: "Based on the increases in car crashes and private property damage and even a preliminary reading of damage to natural areas, the answer is a resounding 'yes!' "

The sterilizations will raise the cost of this year's cull to $250,000, up from $160,000 last year. "It's really expensive," Westphal concedes, "but I'm convinced it's necessary this year until we get a reading on where the herds are. I hear the objection to using guns. But since the predators are gone, it comes down to what species do you prefer to safeguard? Deer without predators eliminate other species."

"A lot of people in both camps aren't happy with the hybrid approach," acknowledges Ward Five rep Chuck Warpehoski. "There are some people who are not happy there are any deer in the city, and some people who will never accept lethal methods" of managing the herd.

"A lot of people in both camps aren't happy with the hybrid approach," acknowledges Ward Five rep Chuck Warpehoski. "There are some people who are not happy there are any deer in the city, and some people who will never accept lethal methods" of managing the herd.

Hilgendorf hopes Ann Arbor residents will mobilize politically to stop future culls. So does Eileen Liska-Stronczer, a

PAUL WIENER

Once again, sharpshooters will be hired to kill up to 100 deer in city parks. But this time, the city also plans sterilize forty to sixty does.

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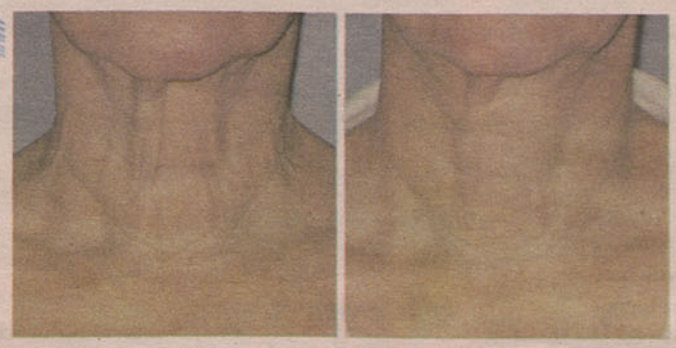

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Pittsfield Township resident who's spoken at council meetings. "It is absolutely up to the people who live in Ann Arbor and who oppose inhumane methods of deer control to do more than complain, and to step up and become politically active," she emails.

"Cull opponents have run three people [for council], and they didn't win," says Warpehoski, who fa d two of them, "and there's still the same nine-two split on council. Most of the people I talk to understand the reason [for the cull]. They're concerned about firearms and closing parks, but they get it."

The shorter cull will give the city more time to warn the public this year. "We'll do signage in three languages, English, Spanish, and Mandarin," Crawford says, "postcards to residents who live around parks and anybody [whose property] backs onto a park, multiple media releases, resident newsletters, email notifications, and social media, our website and our television station, and direct mail to registered neighborhood associations, to the public schools, and to the U-M. And we'll work with stakeholder groups both for and against the cull to further get the word out."

This year's program will also add an educational component: "Materials on how to live with deer more effectively and what kind of planting and sprays to use, and about fencing and signage for deer crossings to help reduce the number of deer-vehicle collisions."

Even with these changes, Crawford says the plan is likely to change again next year. "It's going to take multiple years to find a plan that we settle on. We're still collecting data. The third and the fourth year plans may be quite different."

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

People's Food Co-op general manager Lesley Perkins last year. Her sudden resignation during a unionization drive revived worries about the member-owned store's finances.

Co-op in Turmoil

A union forms, the manager leaves, and members ask "what's next?"

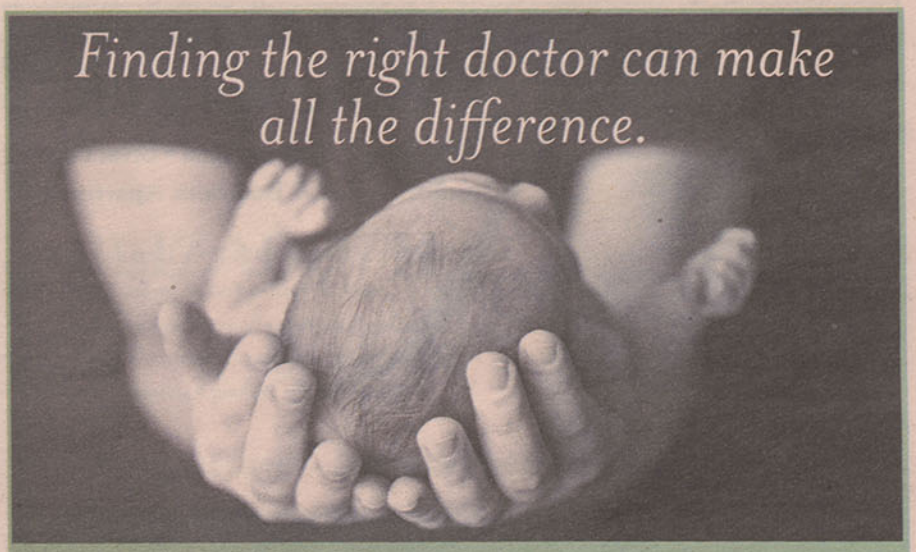
"I have been vilified!" People's Food Co-op manager Lesley Perkins announced to an Observer reporter outside the store in December. A day earlier, she had emailed PFC staff that she was resigning because of the "toxic atmosphere that has been created by people who are organizing a Union here at the Co-op."

Perkins left of her own accord, board president Ann Sprunger confirms. In a subsequent email, Sprunger praised the general manager's "loyalty and dedication," calling her "the right GM for the job at the right time."

From 2010 to 2012, annual sales at the member-owned store on N. Fourth Ave. grew from $5.8 million to $6.5 million. In those three years, the PFC earned more than $180,000 and paid its 8,000 members more than $80,000 in rebates. But sales peaked at $6.7 million in 2013, the year Perkins was hired, and the co-op lost more than $59,000 that year—a blow somewhat cushioned by a $20,000 tax refund. By 2015 sales slipped to $6.5 million, while the pretax loss hit $128,000.

After the workers filed for a union vote, Perkins emails, "my phone and email exploded with inquiries from labor law firms all over the U.S. ... One sent, unsolicited, a large box full of tee shirts, posters, flyers, bumper stickers, buttons, and ribbons, etc., all expressing anti-union sentiment. (It went straight into the bin.)"

In November, half a dozen workers showed up at the PFC's monthly board meeting to announce that they had gathered enough signatures to require a unionization vote. Afterwards, "my phone and email exploded with inquiries from labor law firms all over the U.S." Perkins emails. "One sent (unsolicited) a large box full of tee shirts, posters, flyers, bumper stickers, buttons, and ribbons, etc., all expressing an anti-union sentiment. (It went straight into the bin.)" Instead, she hired a non-lawyer, Detroit-area consultant David Parmenter, to guide the co-op through the National Labor Relations Board filings.



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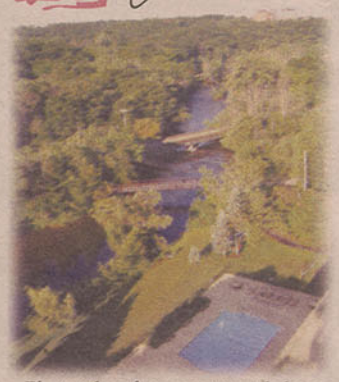

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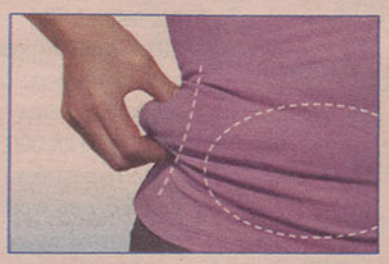

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coolsculpting

That turned into a public relations disaster. "At no time did we ask for anything other than help filling out the paperwork to make sure we all followed labor law," writes Perkins. But because Parmenter's website proclaims "union prevention" as a specialty, union organizer Phil Bianco posted a petition at Change.org titled "Stop Union Busting at the People's Food Co-op!"

The petition collected almost 400 signatures, and "immediately filled up with some vile uninformed knee-jerk comments that were very hurtful to me," Perkins writes. "At no point did Phil Bianco try to temper that mood."

Bianco says he started thinking union after a large plywood sign near the cash register fell on a worker, injuring her leg. Workers had warned management that the sign was dangerously placed, he says, but it wasn't removed until after it fell.

Despite the store's co-operative principals, workers felt like "pawns," says Paul Mayer, a barista at Café Verde. "A lot of people felt their voices weren't heard."

Perkins writes that there were many channels for workers to share their views, but the organizers chose not to use them. Mayer says that's because they feared for their jobs—"for speaking up the wrong way we've seen people get fired." In December, PFC workers voted 33–9 to join the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

The union furor served to catalyze some members' anxieties about the co-op's financial problems. "The board has been less than honest with the membership about the state of the co-op, and how much money we are losing," former board president Linda Diane Feldt wrote in a December blog post. "The board should be letting members know that we are in trouble."

Longtime co-op member Jeannine Palms says that finances were discussed freely at the annual meetings and spreadsheets shown. But, she allows, "I didn't see anything that said 'Hey, all of you! This has been a bad year for the co-op.' "

Perkins writes that the co-op's finances "are not secret" because "we need our members to help us succeed." Sprunger and board treasurer Bruce Curtis, however, declined to discuss the co-op's 2016 results with the Observer. One source predicts that the PFC will report another loss, though not as bad as in 2015.

According to Perkins. the co-op started losing money in October 2012, six months before she arrived. "There were some employees at all levels including some in top management who didn't appear to actually do any work," she writes. "There were no procedures for maintenance, the place was filthy dirty, and broken. It took money and dedication to bring it into decent condition."

She improved lighting to make displays more attractive, expanded the popular prepared-foods bars, replaced aging equipment, and tried to increase the co-op's visibility, with new neon signs in the windows and a tent set up outside on

summer Saturdays to intercept shoppers on their way to the Farmers Market.

But the PFC's 2015 report also highlighted what looks like a failed experiment: then-treasurer Matt Graff calculated that the co-op's generous senior discounts, which under Perkins had expanded to two days a week, had cost $260,000 in just two years. The senior discounts have since been dropped (though all members still get a 10 percent discount on Wednesdays).

In a phone interview, Graff suggests that the members hold the key to restoring the co-op to prosperity: "If we had more of them show up, we'd be fine," he says.

The co-op's connection to its members, however, is wearing thin. Members can no longer volunteer in the store, and Perkins discontinued the PFC's quarterly newspaper to save money. Sprunger emails occasional "Board Notes" to members whose addresses they have, but acknowledges, "we could do better" at communicating.

With Perkins' departure, those challenges will fall on the shoulders of the next general manager. Lori Kroll, a respected longtime employee, is acting as interim GM while the board decides whether to conduct the hiring itself or hire a search firm.

"I think it's going to be difficult to get a manager," Sprunger says. It's easy to see why someone might think twice about taking over a money-losing co-op in a city increasingly saturated with natural food stores—and whose staff just unionized.

MARK BIALEK

"People here believe we should take care of our brothers and sisters and have courteous and civil disagreements," Briere says. "We may even be rational."

Exit Interview

As she departs for California, Sabra Briere considers the state of our town.

Sabra Briere meets a reporter at the downtown Sweetwaters. Two people at the next table stand to give her hugs when she comes in and hug her again when they leave, with accompanying "I love you"s.

"People here believe we should take care of our brothers and sisters and have courteous and civil disagreements," says Briere afterward, visibly touched. "We may even be rational."

But Briere, who resigned from council in December after representing Ward One since 2007, has also seen the town's dark side. "I get attacks on the elite—that's city council—on email," she says, "that we're all rich and doing it to get more rich." She shakes her head. "Self-preservation so often overrides altruism." Naming no names, she mentions people who support affordable housing only until it's proposed in their own neighborhoods.

That won't be her problem any longer. "My son bought us a house in California, and we're moving," Briere says. "I'm so happy my son was able to buy us a house and that I'll get to live near my kid."

For reasons she's never fully understood, Briere says, she was ostracized by the other children in her hometown, Knightstown, Indiana. In contrast, Ann Arbor, where she moved in 1973, "was always cosmopolitan and very accepting of me. I was never judged as a person and found wanting. I was judged on my intellect, energy, and commitment, and I was accepted."

When Briere joined the local Democratic Party in 1977, "Ann Arbor was a Republican town. There were times when there were only two Democratic city councilmembers, and it stayed that way until 1982. Then the Republicans redistricted and determined that there would be one Democratic ward, Ward One, and two guaranteed Republican wards, Wards Two and Four, and the Third and Fifth would swing Republican.

In city politics, what troubles Briere most is the angry division between supporters and opponents of the deer, because "neither side accepts the humanity of the other."

"But they screwed it up," she laughs. "The Fifth now included Water Hill, and they turned it into a Democratic ward.

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And the Third Ward turned Democratic. The Fourth and Second remained Republican, but they were now in a minority.

"Then in 1992 a charter amendment passed to move elections to November, and because a Democrat is more likely to win a general election, council is now predominantly Democratic. That doesn't mean the Second and Fourth Wards are any less conservative."

She doesn't think the newly adopted city charter amendment extending city council terms from two years to four will change things much. "There will still be people running for council who have a sense of community," she says, "and people who are self-promoters, and people with ambitions."

In city politics, what troubles Briere most is the angry division between supporters and opponents of the deer cull (see above), because "neither side accepts the humanity of the other. It's heartbreaking that neighbors can't see each other's point of view."

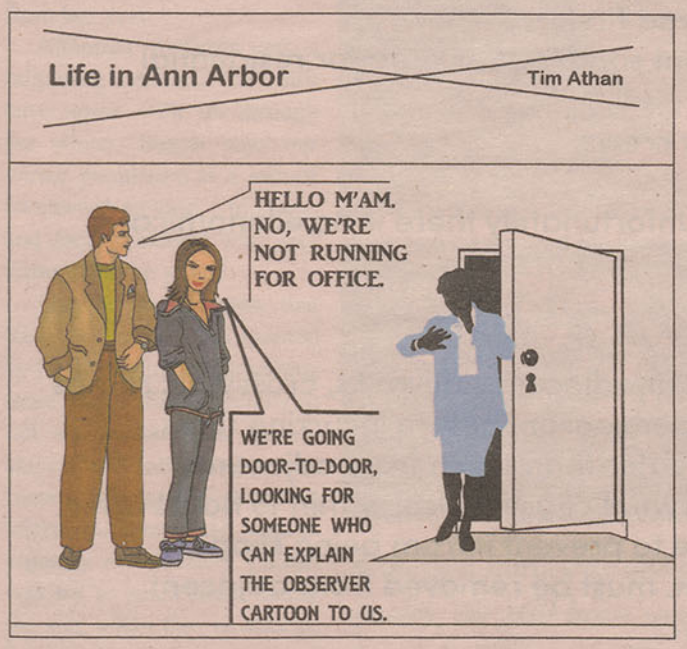
She's also worried about "the impact locally on cuts in national funding. We can't anticipate what [the new Congress and president] will do, and there're so many places where federal funding has a significant effect on our budget. There will be demands for services we can't deliver."

Though she worries about the country's future, Briere is nevertheless cheerful and optimistic about moving in January to live near her son and daughter-in-law in Santa Rosa. "John wanted to be a librarian, but someone advised him he should learn about computers first, and he became a computer nerd. He worked at Adobe, got a job at a start-up, and the rest is history."

In early December, council voted 7–3 to appoint Jason Frenzel, runner-up to Sumi Kailasapathy in the August Democratic primary, to serve out Briere's term. As for Briere and her husband, lawyer and fellow Democratic activist David Cahill, she says "this is the time to make new relationships in a new community." Will they go into politics? "I'm sure we will," she smiles.

The city will miss Briere's patient intelligence and deep passion for her adopted town. So will council. She's always made up her own mind, never looking over her shoulder to see how her colleagues voted. And she has the best constituent newsletter in town.

Will she miss Ann Arbor? "I'll miss the roots and relationships," she says. "I'll miss the younger me. But I'm prepared to change."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calls & letters

English Gardens is still open

Greg Pizzino was surprisingly understanding, considering that the Observer had just written that his store was closed. "My wife's an editor and fact-checker at *Crazy Wisdom Journal*," he explained when we stopped by to apologize, so he knows something about the risk of mistakes in publishing.

Ours was a bad one. A writer for our December 2016 Marketplace Chances column misunderstood a comment from Maple Village's landlord to mean that the store would close at the end of November. Quite the contrary: the store's lease, originally scheduled to end this month, has been extended through August 2017. "We'll have a full Christmas season," says Pizzino, a department sales manager who's filling in while his boss is on maternity leave, "and a full spring season as well."

Wrong landlord, wrong address

"It was good that you got us in the December issue, but you got the wrong address, and you had our old landlord," By the Pound owner Glenn Bourland said in a voicemail. When we called back, Bourland explained that it was developer Brandt Stiles of Collegiate Housing Partners—not former South Main Market owner Bill Kinley—who notified him that he'd have to move sooner than planned. And we'd left a digit out of the store's new address in Colonial Plaza: it's 1952 South Industrial, Suites C & D.

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PLOWING BASICS

- The city services 98 miles of major roads and 197 miles of residential streets.
- The goal is to treat/plow all streets within 24 hours of an "average" 4-inch snowstorm.
- Trunk lines, major roads and the next day's solid waste routes are plowed first.
- The city uses salt to treat trunk lines and major roads and a 95/5 percent sand/salt mixture for residential streets and other locations.
- Schools and privately owned lots and roads are not maintained by city crews.
- The city does not clear mail boxes of snow or ice.
- Plows often deposit snow or ice on sidewalks during normal plowing. Unfortunately there is no economical technology that allows the city to avoid this.

SIDEWALKS

Property owners are responsible for removing snow or treating ice on their adjacent sidewalks, crosswalk ramps and concrete bus stops. Property owners will receive only one warning, per season, before incurring fines.

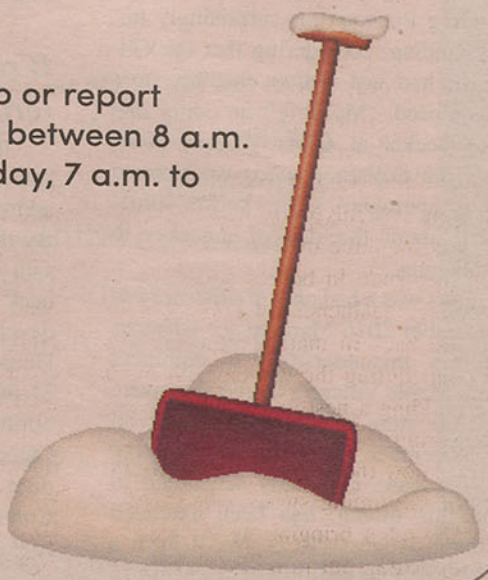
- Residential Property: required to remove any accumulation of snow greater than 1 inch from adjacent sidewalks, crosswalk ramps and bus stops within 24 hours from time snowfall ceases. Also, within 18 hours after any ice forms, the owner shall treat ice with sand, salt or other substance to prevent it from being slippery.
- Non-residential Property: Any snow/ice that has accumulated by 6 a.m. must be removed from adjacent sidewalks, crosswalk ramps and bus stops before noon on the same day.

FREE SAND/SALT MIXTURE TO RESIDENTS

The city provides residents with up to 5 gallons of a sand/salt mixture, per visit to 721 N. Main St. or one of six park locations: Allmendinger, Buhr, Burns, Leslie and Veterans Memorial. Residents should bring their own shovel and bucket and load material themselves from the marked pile.
This material is not for contractors. For more information, visit a2gov.org/snow.

REPORT A PROBLEM

To report excessive snow or ice on a street or sidewalk, please use the A2 Fix It app or report online via a2gov.org/a2fixit. To report a street by phone, please call 734.794.6320 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. To report a sidewalk by phone, please call 734.794.6942 Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



CITY OF ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN

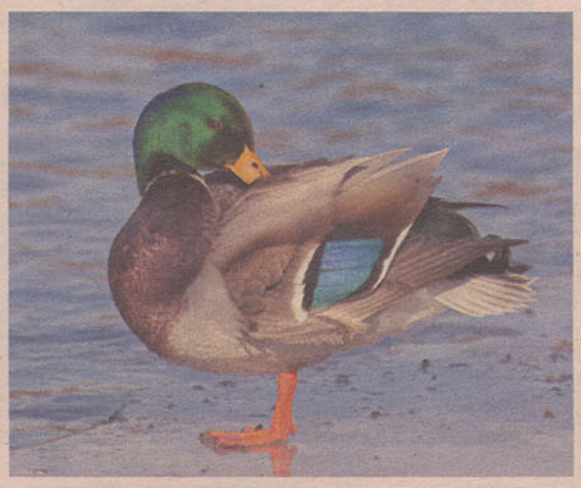
VISIT A2GOV.ORG/SNOW

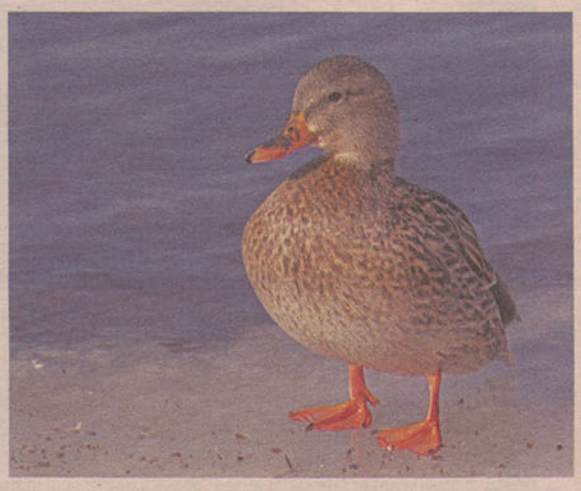
Outside

by Bob & Jorja Feldman

Mallards in the Snow

There's physics behind the sparkle.





Although mallards are a migrating species, we still have some with us through the winter. City ornithologist Juliet Berger says they're a mix of southward-moving migrants and local residents who stay throughout the year.

Looking for a flash of color in a monochromatic winter? Take a good look at a male (drake) mallard—when he's facing the sun, the feathers on his head glow emerald green.

City ornithologist Juliet Berger says mallards "are one of the most widespread ducks around the world." In Michigan alone, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates the breeding population at 278,000, up by 17 percent from last year.

Although mallards are a migrating species, we still have some with us through the winter. Berger says our winter population is a mix of southward-moving migrants and local residents who stay throughout the year.

They're so common that these ducks are often ignored by folks looking for something more exotic. But especially in fall and winter, their beauty shines. With foliage scarce and snow and ice providing a clean backdrop, their fresh nuptial plumage is intimately visible. Just try to catch them facing the sun: when they're backlit, they look much darker and duller, without the vivid color shown in these images.

Color in birds—as we perceive it—is created in two ways. Some is due to pigment—chemical compounds. The other type, called structural color, is the result of physics: an interplay involving light and the physical structure of certain types of feathers. In the right light and from the right angle, it creates the male's iridescent green head.

According to Berger, mallards here molt from late July into August. They are flightless for three or four weeks, a time when they hide in bushes and have dull camouflage feathers. But come fall, the birds are back in mating plumage. They will court during the winter, with the female building a nest and incubating eggs in the spring.

You know those charming family pictures of swimming swans, one parent in front, the other bringing up the rear, and the kids strung out in a line in between? Never happens with mallards. The males take off after eggs are laid and keep company with other males.

In winter, Berger reports, you can usually find mallards at Gallup Park if there is open water. We have also seen wintering mallards in the river below Barton Dam when most everything else is frozen. In warmer seasons, they may be found in or near any relatively calm body of water: Over the years, we have seen mallards marching around the back of Briarwood Mall and parading through Ann Arbor Hills. Jorja recently saw some trying to cross Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. near Oak Valley Dr.

Finally, if you didn't know it (and we didn't), ornithologist Berger says: "Almost all of the domestic breeds of ducks around the world are derived from wild mallards." These are birds without borders.

—Bob & Jorja Feldman

PHOTOS: BOB & JORJA FELDMAN

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WASHTENAW COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER

Master Rain Gardeners

MASTER RAIN GARDENER

Thank you!

Rain Garden Stewards

Arbor Oaks:	Peggy Behrendt
Belize Park:	Martha Hill
Buhr Park:	Jeannine Palms
Burns Park:	Lindsay Nelson, Kelly Jones
Cobblestone:	Erich Jensen, Gabriela Rubalcava & friends
Gallup Park:	Roger Moon
Huron Hills:	Roger Moon
Kingsley & 1st:	Cyndi Ives
Madison Street:	Aaron Hammer, Dan & Tina Ezekiel, Laurie Torbet, Erin Devries
Miller Avenue:	Amy Szczepanski, Bill Sloan, Ali Newton, Owen & Jane Jansson, Deborah Kay
Mulholland	Jack & Carolyn Wallace
Rec & Ed:	Seema Jolly & Rec & Ed Staff
Skate Park:	Tricia Jones
Stone School:	Mildred Hill, Peggy Behrendt
Vets Ice Rink:	Greta Dongvillo, Betsy Mills
Fire Station:	Jan Meddaugh
Zamboni Garden:	Nugget Burkhart, Alana Tucker
West Park:	Alice Owings

Photo Credit: Linda Prieskorn

Photo Credit: Susan Bryan

Photo Credit: S. Bryan

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Cost: $89, scholarships available

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Evan Pratt, Water Resources Commissioner

Spring/Summer regsitration begins Feb. 1

NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM DEBUTS NEXT MONTH

The spring/summer 80-page Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation activity guide will be available online the week of Jan. 23, 2017 in advance of registration opening Wednesday, Feb. 1.

You'll find information about our 2017 Summer Day Camps and all events/programs at our park facilities from golf and kayak lessons to cultural arts activities, farmers market programs and much more.

You can find us online at **a2gov.org/parks** and on social media: **twitter.com/a2parks** on **facebook.com/annarbor.parks** or tag us on **instagram.com/annarborparks.**

We are excited to announce that in 2017, we will be getting a new recreation software system. This change will help improve the customer experience, including on our online registration system. We will continue to provide updates about this exciting change/improvement. More details about this change will follow in the coming weeks! Stay tuned.

Parks&Recreation CITY OF ANN ARBOR
a2gov.org/parks
734.794.6230

Special events in January & February

Veterans Memorial Ice Arena
2150 Jackson Ave.
734.794.6233

Holiday Skating at Veterans
Jan. 2-5, 11:10 a.m.-3:10 p.m.
Jan. 6, 11:10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena
2751 Packard Rd.
734.794.6234

Bluegrass Night at Buhr
Friday, Jan. 6 from 7:15-8:45 p.m.
Skate to the sounds of the bluegrass.
Dress up for prizes!

Buhr Blitz Day
Saturday, Feb. 4 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Special games, contests
on and off the ice!

Mack Indoor Pool
715 Brooks St.
734.794.6237

Dive-in Movie Mack Pool
Jan. 14 (Star Wars) 7:30 p.m.
Watch a movie in the pool!

Splash Day Mack Pool
Jan. 7 and Feb. 11, 2-4 p.m.
Games, prizes and activites in
and out of the pool!

Ice skating/drop-in hockey: Skate at Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena & Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Arena.

Join us at open swim or take swim lessons at Mack Indoor Pool located inside Ann Arbor Open School.

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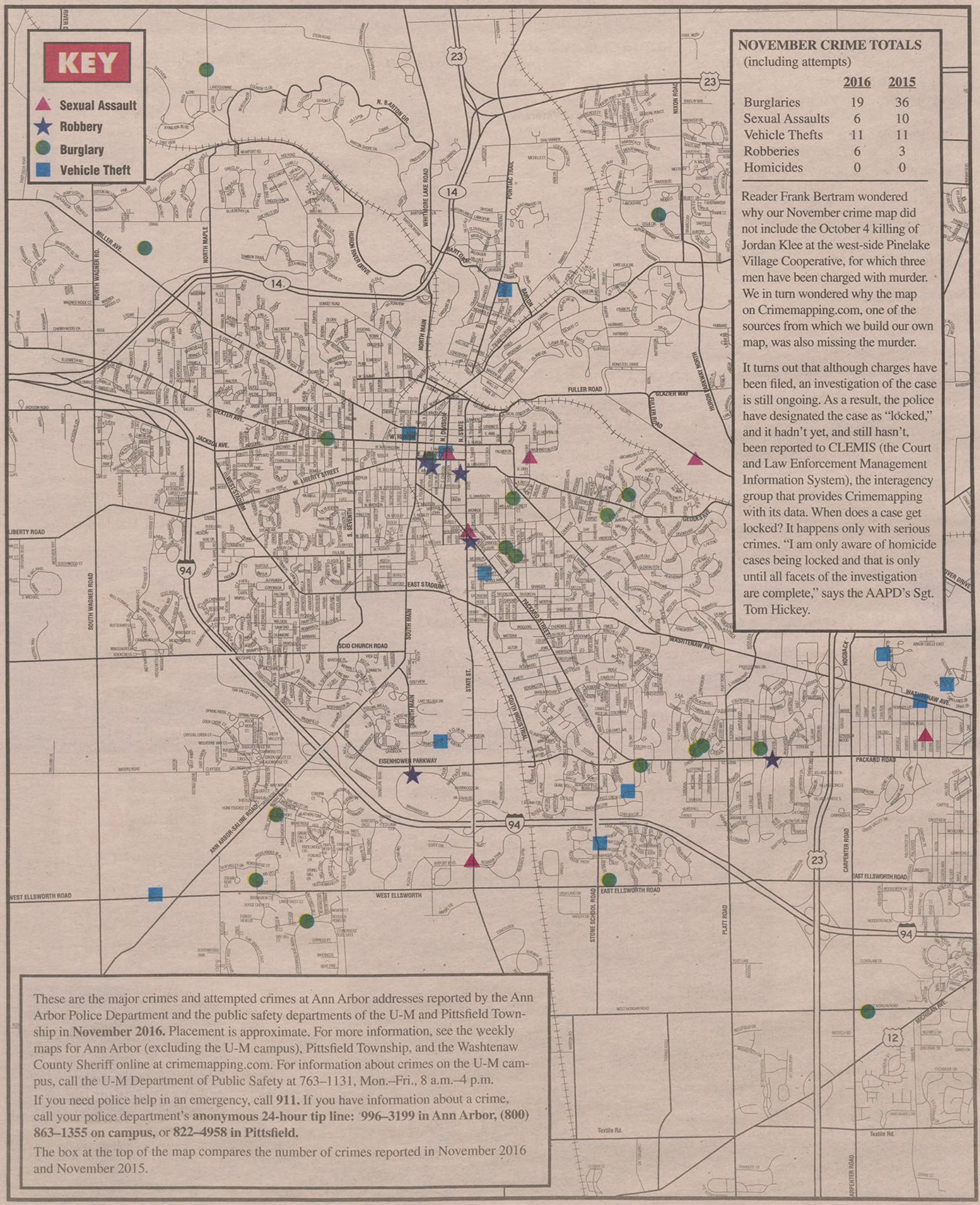
CrimeMap



NOVEMBER CRIME TOTALS
(including attempts)

	2016	2015
Burglaries	19	36
Sexual Assaults	6	10
Vehicle Thefts	11	11
Robberies	6	3
Homicides	0	0

Reader Frank Bertram wondered why our November crime map did not include the October 4 killing of Jordan Klee at the west-side Pinelake Village Cooperative, for which three men have been charged with murder. We in turn wondered why the map on Crimemapping.com, one of the sources from which we build our own map, was also missing the murder.

It turns out that although charges have been filed, an investigation of the case is still ongoing. As a result, the police have designated the case as "locked," and it hadn't yet, and still hasn't, been reported to CLEMIS (the Court and Law Enforcement Management Information System), the interagency group that provides Crimemapping with its data. When does a case get locked? It happens only with serious crimes. "I am only aware of homicide cases being locked and that is only until all facets of the investigation are complete," says the AAPD's Sgt. Tom Hickey.

These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **November 2016.** Placement is approximate. For more information, see the weekly maps for Ann Arbor (excluding the U-M campus), Pittsfield Township, and the Washtenaw County Sheriff online at crimemapping.com. For information about crimes on the U-M campus, call the U-M Department of Public Safety at 763–1131, Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **822–4958 in Pittsfield.**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in November 2016 and November 2015.

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Sandy Alcini

Dreadlock specialist

"The dreads are kind of a spiritual thing for a lot of people," says Sandy Alcini, owner of Grateful Dreads, a hair salon tucked behind a house on N. Fourth Ave. For Jamaican singer Bob Marley, whose photograph hangs in her salon, the combed and twisted curls signified his Rastafarian faith.

For others, dreadlocks are just a fun and different look. "I wanted something new," explains Sedric Wilson, a soft-spoken twenty-five-year-old from Ypsilanti.

Wilson, who is biracial, has come for what Alcini calls "maintenance." The stylist, forty-two, begins separating his hair into strands with a small tool, then pinning them back. Glancing frequently at a mirror to see the effect she's creating, she backcombs, twists, and interlocks each strand, then adds extensions to form a carefully shaped spray of locks. The process takes a couple of hours, billed by the hour—Alcini recently raised her hourly rate to $70, "because my clients told me $60 was too low."

As she's finishing with Wilson, Mick Newsham arrives from Bay City and waits his turn. A big, white, former military guy who heard of Grateful Dreads through a friend, he has shaved his sides but has long top dreads that he wants spruced up. He has a stronger emotional attachment than Wilson to the look. Fascinated by his Irish heritage, he has studied depictions of Celtic warriors, some of whom wore their hair in dread-like styles. He also views them as a declaration of independence—his military family, he says, is "big on conformity."

Alcini believes hers is the only salon in Ann Arbor that specializes in dreadlocks (Ypsilanti has a couple). Because dreads have traditionally been associated with African Americans, she says that some black customers, when they see she's white, "say 'No offense, but are you sure you can do my hair?' " She assures them she's been trained and thanks them for trying her out.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

She says the work is a bit like crocheting: while the process can seem monotonous, it holds her interest because her clients have different ideas about the look they want.

She's troubled that blacks and whites usually go to different hair salons. Determined to build an integrated customer base, she worked at an all-black salon in Ferndale. Though her boss enthusiastically welcomed her, she initially made other workers, and some customers, nervous. "I was nice to everyone," she says, and eventually they became comfortable with her.

She says about 40 percent of her customers are African American, with most of the rest Caucasian or Latino. She's also attracted a particular niche: adopted African American children brought in by white parents who, she thinks, sometimes feel shy about asking black beauticians about black hair.

Alcini remains sensitive to the politics of dreads. Arguments about whites "appropriating" an African style draw heat on the Internet. "This is such a loaded question!" Alcini says. She tries to keep the culture wars out of her salon—to make it welcoming and comfortable for people of all races and backgrounds.

Raised in Canton, Alcini fell in love with Ann Arbor on a visit in high school: for a couple of summers, she and friends sublet a house "for about $200" and lived here. But her route to the shop an alley off Fourth Ave. was circuitous.

Although she went to a beauty school during and after high school, she was restless in her twenties—dropping in and out of various Michigan colleges, and then traveling around the country, working at a variety of jobs (she remembers with particular fondness housekeeping for an Oregon ski/snowboarding lodge on Mt. Hood). Much of the time she wore her hair extremely short, but for a period she let it grow out and was intrigued when it formed chunky "natural" dreads.

Returning to Michigan around 2000, she ran into a Native American friend at a party. He had just had his dreads cut, and they had an intense talk. "The idea of putting in dreads was totally new to me. He showed me how to do it, and we did a guy's hair together … I got a job at a salon and it's like 'I do dreads!' " Soon, anyone who asked about dreads was referred to her.

She's worn dreads herself, but now usually keeps her thick, dark brown hair in an easy-to-manage ponytail. She used to wear eye makeup, but stopped soon after she and husband Greg Campbell (a Zingerman's baker) became parents to Camellia, now six: as a toddler, Camellia kept trying to apply her mom's mascara and eyeliner to her lips.

Alcini left another Ann Arbor salon four years ago to open Grateful Dreads. She found the space on Craigslist; her landlord is Kent Burkhart, whose late dad, Ben, set hot lead type in the building well into the electronic age. She bought a beautician's chair at an auction, cleaned and painted, and was open within a month.

She has a handful of part-time assistants, including a Community High student who, she says, is a whiz at color. A licensed beautician, she can do many hairstyles, but it's dreads that bring people to her door from Ypsi and Bay City. She says the work is a bit like crocheting: while the process can seem monotonous, it holds her interest because her clients have different ideas about the look they want—some want just part of their hair dreaded; others want color or to experiment with extensions.

Wanting Camellia to grow up in a diverse city was a main reason the family decided to settle permanently here; they rent a house close by the northwest side and raise chickens in the backyard. Recently in the shop with her mother, Camellia listened with interest when Alcini described Ann Arbor people as "smart and cool." She chimed in, "Sometimes they're weird!"

Run ragged with work during the holidays, Alcini is nonetheless pleased how her gamble has played out. Yet, she doesn't rule out finally achieving her college degree—maybe in business. Her customers, who include many grad students, motivate her. "I like it," she says, "that people are goal oriented here."

—Eve Silberman

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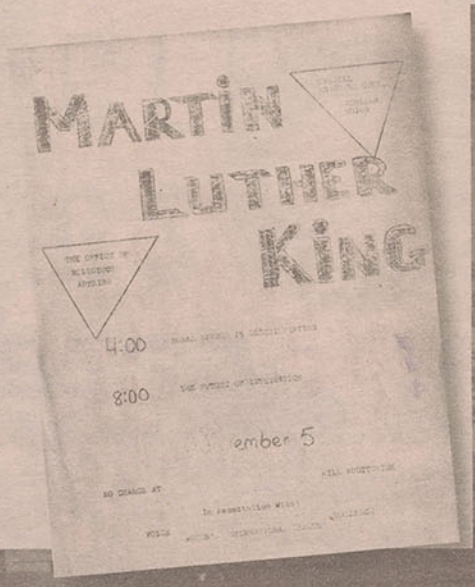
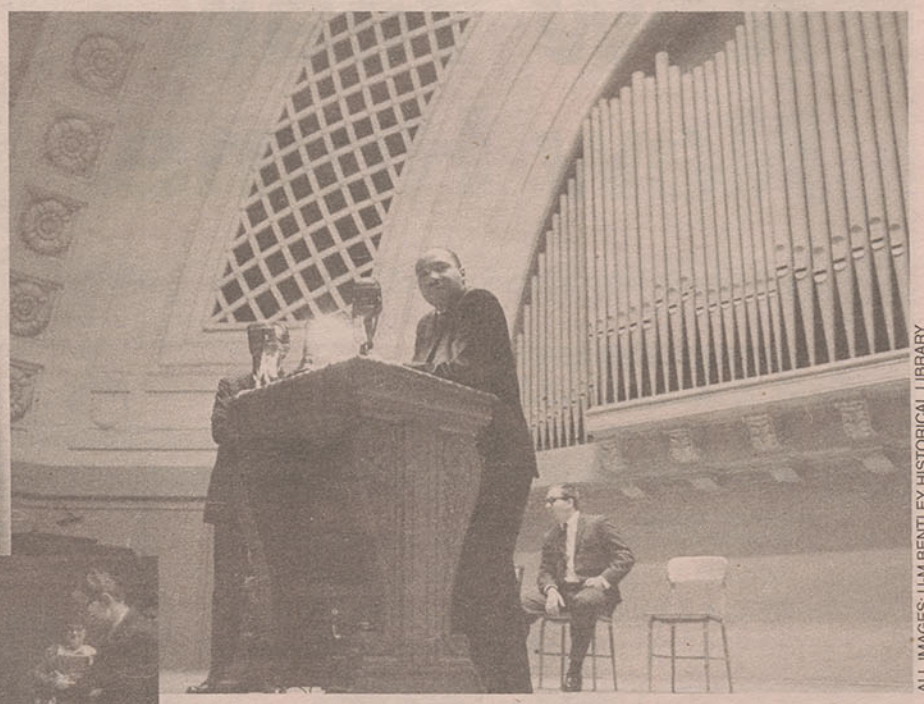
The Arc of Justice

MLK at Hill Auditorium, 1962





ALL IMAGES: U-M BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY

King's topic, "The Future of Integration," was still an open question in 1962—even in Ann Arbor, neighborhoods and schools were racially segregated. "What he actually said—I remember, without trying to quote him—was not just that the arc of the moral universe bends towards justice, but that it won't bend towards justice unless we march," Larry Brilliant recalls. "I think what he said was 'get off your butt and grab the arc and bend it, twist it, toward justice.'"

On November 5, 1962, Larry Brilliant, in his own words a "completely clueless sophomore," saw "a very small note and ad in the *Michigan Daily*. It said that Martin Luther King was coming. To this day I don't know what made me get out of bed and go there."

Rashel Levine was a sixteen-year-old freshman; her boyfriend, Daniel Jeffrey, was nineteen. "We were both very concerned about supporting black people," she recalls.

Jim Toy was years away from being a leader in the gay rights movement. "I was in my sexual-orientation closet," he recalls, "and enrolled in a graduate program at the U-M School of Music."

Joetta Mial was already engaged in the civil rights movement. Just eight years earlier her husband, Harry Mial, had been the first black teacher hired by the Ann Arbor Public Schools, and it was still hard for an African American to get a professional job—her friend Letitia Byrd, who went to King's speech with her, had been turned down by AAPS when she applied for a teaching job. (There were no laws against housing discrimination, and there were many neighborhoods in Ann Arbor where a black person couldn't rent an apartment or buy a home.)

Just emerging as a national leader, King was still unknown to most white Americans in 1962. But to Mial, he "was awe-inspiring … He was a hero for all of us."

King's Ann Arbor interlude was largely forgotten until 2012, when the *Michigan Daily* published an article headlined "MLK's 1962 visit highlighted in long-forgotten photographs." It described how David Erdody, a reference assistant at the U-M Bentley Historical Library, had come across a series of twenty photo negatives from the event, only one of which had ever been published. He'd always wondered if King had been here, and with some help he found the photos in a file filled with images of distinguished visitors to campus, including Jonas Salk and John F. Kennedy.

Brian Williams, a senior archivist at the Bentley, recently wrote a much fuller account of King's visit. While Erdody brought the photos to light, Williams emails, "it's a stretch to say that they were lost or unknown. They were listed and described by archivists in a searchable finding aid (albeit without details or a date)." But he's grateful to Erdody for "bringing more attention to the negatives and raising awareness about them."

In his essay, Williams recounts how King was invited to speak by the U-M Office of Religious Affairs. Other sponsors included the Michigan Union's Special Projects Committee, which was sponsoring a series on civil liberties and distributed a hand-lettered flyer; VOICE, a student political party that later merged with the SDS; the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and Challenge, a group whose mission, Williams writes, was "to encourage involvement in crucial problems by bringing prominent national figures to campus to promote discussion and action."

King met university president Harlan Hatcher, Michigan governor G. Mennen Williams, and other dignitaries over lunch and gave an afternoon talk at the Michigan Union before his evening speech at Hill.

Speaking by phone from Missoula, Montana, Rashel Levine Jeffrey recalls that she and her future husband met King on the steps of the Michigan Union. "He told us that if we wanted to talk to him we could come and visit him." The three of them talked for half an hour on the Union's third floor.

"He sat in the big brown chair," she recalls. "He looked very tired." They didn't ask questions. "It was conversational," she says. "He talked about the long struggle" for civil rights.

Joetta Mial recalls that she and Letitia Byrd attended the evening speech together. "We walked [a long way] because we couldn't get a parking place close by," she says. "We did get to shake his hand after."

Mial and Byrd were moved and honored, and King's speech encouraged them to follow a path they were already on. For others, the day was transformative.

"I was inspired by his speech," recalls Jim Toy by phone. The following year, he joined a civil rights march King led in Detroit. But its full effect took much longer to emerge. "Only after I came out of the closet in 1970, abandoned my graduate work, and co-founded the Spectrum Center at the U-M, did I slowly realize that Dr. King's peace-making work could be a model for my own," Toy emails. "It took me years to learn to speak 'non-violently' when I was advocating for the human and civil rights of TBLGQIA people." Ever since, he writes, "I have tried to model my work after what Dr. King did in his quest for justice—to do it in a 'peace-making' fashion."

In a phone interview, Brilliant recalls that Hatcher apologized for the low turnout. "And what Martin Luther King said, was, 'Don't worry about it. You all come on up. There's more of me to go around.'

"He talked for a long time about the history of racial injustice and slavery. He talked about how it wasn't just black people who were mistreated. He talked about American Indians. He said, 'you're harming white people, not just black people [by perpetuating segregation] ... you're harming the soul of white people by making them complicitous in your system.

"What he actually said—I remember, without trying to quote him—was not just that the arc of the moral universe bends towards justice, but that it won't bend towards justice unless we march. I think what he said was 'get off your butt and grab the arc and bend it, twist it, toward justice.'"

Back then, Brilliant says, he was "way too shy" to speak to King. But the speech transformed his life. "I switched my major to philosophy," joined a King-led civil rights march in Detroit, and "had sit-ins and teach-ins and joined an alphabet soup of civil rights organizations: CORE, SNCC, and NAACP. We learned nonviolence, to sit in at the lunch counter at Woolworth's, and absorb body blows without hitting back."

Brilliant went on to earn a master's in public health and a medical degree, live in an ashram in India, help eradicate smallpox, teach at the U-M School of Public Health, and found the Seva Foundation, which works to eliminate blindness worldwide—a trajectory traced in his new autobiography, *Sometimes Brilliant.*

When Brilliant returned to Hill in 2014 to speak at the U-M medical school's spring graduation ceremony, he credited it all to King. "It was in this hall, fifty-two years ago, that my life was forever changed," he told the young physicians. "I walked into this building November 5, 1962, a sad and depressed undergraduate. I walked out with a lifelong mission."

—Jan Schlain

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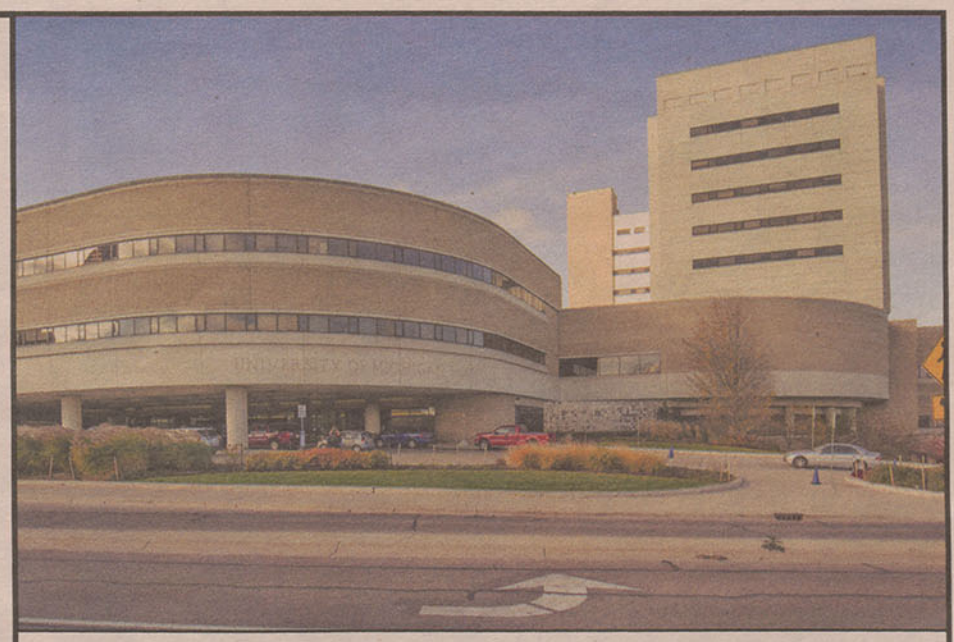

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

In the last three years, outpatient pharmacy revenue at the UMHS exploded from $193 million to $447 million. The pharmacies alone probably turned a loss to a profit in 2014—and had a much bigger impact last year.

Republican plans to repeal Obamacare **threaten** the U-M Health System. But the hospitals have a **hidden lifeline**.

BY KEN GARBER

At the June meeting of the University of Michigan regents, U-M Health System president Dave Spahlinger projected a $129 million surplus for the 2016 fiscal year. With annual revenues of more than $3 billion and roughly 16,000 full-time-equivalent employees, the UMHS is by far Washtenaw County's biggest business, and its financial health is critical to the university and to the region as a whole.

The number—since revised upward—continued a welcome financial turnaround. The health system reported a surplus of $87 million in 2015, up from just $17 million the year before. This despite debt service on the new women's and children's hospitals (combined cost $754 million) and a planned $175 million health center in Brighton, which broke ground in September.

In a press release, Spahlinger credited strong patient volume and improved patient access along with faculty and staff engagement. Demand for outpatient services in particular has steadily increased, with new patient appointments growing 38 percent over the previous five years.

But Republican plans to repeal Obamacare threaten to undo that progress. "The Affordable Care Act [ACA] has been a significant positive" for the bottom line, Spahlinger told the Observer in September. That's because the number of uninsured patients treated at the UMHS fell dramatically as the Medicaid rolls expanded under Obamacare and more low-income people acquired private insurance. "We probably have one of the most generous charity care policies in the state," Spahlinger noted. "Anybody under 200 percent of federal poverty [guidelines] who didn't have insurance … and lives in the state could get free care here."

The UMHS once wrote off many millions each month for such care—$8 million in December 2013 alone. Two Decembers later, charity care came in under $4 million. Bad debt from unpaid bills—an even bigger liability—also declined under Obamacare.

President-elect Donald Trump plans to appoint Tom Price, Obamacare's most rabid enemy in Congress, to head the Department of Health and Human Services, and Republican congressional leaders say that repeal will be one of their first acts in January. Implementing it, and coming up with a replacement plan, will take longer, but the ACA will probably collapse within a year as insurers flee the marketplace. And current plans call for the national rollback of the ACA's Medicaid expansion.

If that happens, the UMHS will be much worse off than before the ACA took effect. That's a legacy of Obamacare's little-known deal-making history. Because the UMHS treats many low-income patients, it's classified a "disproportionate share hospital" (DSH). Collectively, DSH hospitals used to get tens of billions of dollars a year in Medicare "buffer" funds and other subsidies—but agreed to give them up to help finance the ACA. In exchange, the hospitals were promised a windfall from Obamacare's newly insured patients.

Now those insurance payments are likely to disappear—but the funding cuts will probably remain. A December report by the American Hospital Association (AHA) calculates that DSH hospitals will lose $289 billion over eight years if the ACA is repealed and the Medicare cuts are not reversed. "Losses of this magnitude cannot be sustained" and will result in "massive job losses," AHA president Richard Pollack wrote in December letters to Trump and to Congress.

Though the UMHS will suffer if Obamacare collapses, it also has a hidden lifeline. Crucially, one surviving DSH program is providing spectacular returns that are likely to grow, not disappear.

That lifeline runs through the hospital's outpatient pharmacies. A federal program called 340B, after the section of the Veterans Health Care Act of 1992 that created it, requires manufacturers to sell DSH providers outpatient drugs for 20 to 50 percent less than they charge others. The extra profits aren't passed on to patients or their insurers but go to the hospitals' bottom line.

THE ACA WILL PROBABLY COLLAPSE WITHIN A YEAR AS INSURERS FLEE THE MARKETPLACE. AND CURRENT PLANS CALL FOR ROLLING BACK THE ACA'S MEDICAID EXPANSION.

Between fiscal 2013 and 2016, outpatient pharmacy revenue at the UMHS exploded from $193 million to $447 million a year. Its share of the health system's revenue also doubled, from 7 percent to 14 percent. With gross margins of about 43 percent, the outpatient pharmacy alone probably turned a loss to a profit in 2014—and had a much bigger impact last year.

The U-M has been a DSH since 2004. In fiscal 2009, it established a specialty pharmacy to provide injectable drugs and other medications that require close physician supervision. Together, those changes have proved enormously profitable. "This year we saw record financial performance," chief pharmacy officer Stan Kent wrote in his 2016 annual report, "largely due to our specialty pharmacy business and 340B participation."

The specialty pharmacy started out dispensing immunosuppressive drugs to organ transplant patients, who must take the drugs for the rest of their lives to prevent rejection—a niche previously served by outside pharmacies under contract with the hospital. "There's a margin to be made off of these drugs; that's why these outside companies do that," says Jim Stevenson, chief pharmacy officer from 1999 to 2014. By establishing its own specialty pharmacy, "we kept that within the University of Michigan system."

But there are relatively few transplant patients. So, over time, U-M's pharmacies added cancer chemotherapy and rheumatology drugs (for rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune diseases), which usually must be infused intravenously in a clinical setting. These became major profit drivers. "As our cancer infusions and non-cancer infusions grew, as our programs grew, that 340B pricing became more and more valuable year over year," says Stevenson.

What really drove the revenue explosion, though, were new oral treatments for cancer and hepatitis C. The cancer pills are more convenient and less toxic than conventional chemotherapy, but they're also very expensive: Pfizer's Ibrance, a breast cancer drug discovered in Ann Arbor, came to market last year at a list price of more than $118,000 a year.

Even more important, three years ago, the FDA approved Olysio and Sovaldi, the first so-called direct-acting antivirals (DAAs) for hepatitis C. Other DAAs quickly followed. Before then, patients with hepatitis C, who are at risk for cirrhosis, liver failure, and liver cancer, took a combination of two old drugs, interferon beta and ribavirin. They cured the disease less than half the time, and their extreme side effects—anemia, fatigue, flu-like symptoms, and severe depression—led many patients to forgo or abandon treat-

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MIRACLE DRUGS

ment and some to commit suicide. The new pills, which precisely target viral proteins, are largely free of side effects and cure about 95 percent of hepatitis C cases, usually after just twelve weeks of treatment.

These are incredible drugs, and they're incredibly costly. A typical twelve-week course of treatment with Harvoni, the most widely prescribed DAA, has a list price of $94,500—or $1,125 for a single pill. Institutions don't pay list price, but it's still extremely expensive: according to a recent report by the IMS Institute for Healthcare Informatics, insurers reimburse hospitals an average of $50,400 for treating a patient with Harvoni. According to Aaron Vandervelde, a Washington, D.C.–based health care consultant (and U-M business school grad), reimbursement for such expensive drugs includes a markup of 6–10 percent to cover the hospital's costs to dispense it. So an average hospital might pay $46,000–$47,500 for a course of Harvoni and keep roughly $2,800 to $4,500.

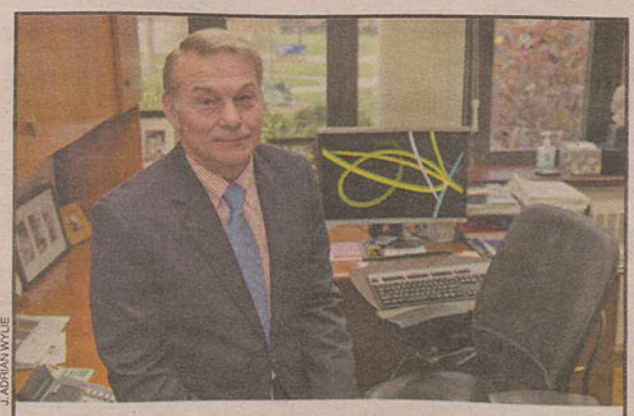
A hospital that gets the drug at the 340B rate can make a lot more. The 340B discount typically starts at 23 percent off the average selling price. At that rate, a disproportionate share hospital like UMHS would pay about $32,000 to $35,000 for a course of Harvoni—and earn somewhere between $15,000 and $18,000. That's just from the drug—payments to the hospital facility and the treating doctor would be on top of that. And it could be more: Vandervelde, who consults mainly for drug companies but also for insurers and hospitals, says 340B discounts can be as much 30 percent below the average selling price. At that rate, a 340B hospital would earn $17,000–$18,000 for each insured patient.

As a major liver referral center, UMHS has "one of the largest hepatology programs in this country and perhaps the world," says U-M hepatologist Anna Lok in a U-M promotional video. UMHS spokesperson Mary Masson won't give the actual number of hepatitis C patients it treats but emails that it is in the "thousands," most of them eligible for 340B pricing.

"Last year hepatitis C contributed a lot to our pharmaceutical performance," Spahlinger says. "We had been following patients for years with hep C, and we had what I would call a backlog of patients." Beginning in 2009 the UMHS counseled many patients to hold off on treatment and wait for the DAAs. Once the drugs arrived, treating the backlog gave the hospital a one-time financial windfall.

How much might the U-M be earning from hep C treatments? Our $15,000 to $18,000 range per eligible patient is just a guess; Gilead Sciences, maker of Harvoni, won't disclose how much it charges UMHS for the drug, and the UMHS won't say either. But Spahlinger doesn't rule out a gain in the range of $10,000 to $20,000 for every insured 340B patient. "Not sure that's what we make," he says. "That may be related to the savings we get—I don't know."

Masson writes that the health system's hepatitis C drug revenue totaled $54 million in fiscal year 2016. With the drug alone billing at $50,400, it could collect that much by treating fewer than 1,100 insured patients. Depending on the size of its 340B discount, and its markup on non-discounted drugs, UMHS may have turned a gross profit of $9 million to $12 million. And that's just from hep C—it enjoys similar markups on the oncology, rheumatology, and other outpatient drugs it also buys at 340B prices.


J. ADRIAN WYLIE

The expensive new drugs for hepatitis C "contributed a lot to our pharmaceutical performance" in fiscal 2016, says UMHS president Dave Spahlinger. "We had what I would call a backlog of patients."

The imminent loss of Obamacare is even more dangerous because it comes at a time when health systems face enormous pressure to grow. Most American outpatient care is still "fee for service," with providers billing insurers for each treatment and diagnostic procedure they perform. But now Medicare and private insurers are moving inexorably towards a future of "bundled" payments: providers will get a fixed amount per patient per year, or a flat rate per "episode" of specialty care, regardless of the actual services provided. To spread that risk across the largest possible pool of patients, providers are competing to buy physician practices and even entire health systems.

Investing when revenue is uncertain is a risky business—but to survive in the bundled payment era, UMHS leaders have concluded that they must aggressively expand their outstate network. That's partly to head off other health systems already doing this and partly because UMHS can't compete for most patients on price.

But here, too, the U-M's outpatient pharmacy provides a lifeline: each expansion is a chance to acquire more 340B patients. In December, the UMHS completed its acquisition of Metro Health, a Grand Rapids–area osteopathic hospital. Though the arrangement

was described as an "affiliation," *Crain's Detroit Business* reported that it will "make 208-bed Metro Health a wholly owned subsidiary of UMHS." Masson writes that 340B wasn't a consideration in the deal, but Metro Health's hospital and clinics will bring more 340B-qualifying cancer, arthritis, and hepatitis C patients into the UMHS system.

Though the 340B program has become critical to the UMHS, it won't reveal the precise impact. Its 2015 financial reports show the University of Michigan Medical Group (UMMG), the faculty group practice that collects doctors' payments and distributes them, to be the fastest growing unit in the health system. "A lot of that I would attribute to the hep C growth," says Spahlinger. But the U-M rejected an Observer Freedom of Information Act request for the UMMG budget because "the UMMG does not have a separate budget," wrote U-M chief freedom of information officer Patricia Sellinger. This despite the existence of a permanent UMMG budget and finance committee that "reviews the UMMG budget annually," according to the UMHS website. Last summer, the UMHS removed several detailed financial statements from the website. Questions about why they were removed went unanswered, although the UMHS did provide the Observer a four-page financial summary for fiscal 2016.

HEPATITIS C DRUG REVENUE ALONE TOTALED $54 MILLION IN FISCAL 2016.

The hepatitis C money, wherever it goes, is already falling off, because the patient backlog has been treated. "We anticipate actually for next year that the revenue from hep C drugs will drop about $22 million," says Spahlinger. It won't disappear completely, because new patients continue to be diagnosed. Most people infected with hep C are baby boomers who acquired the disease through blood transfusions before blood supplies were first tested in 1991, and many are still unaware they have it. (Hepatitis C can be asymptomatic for decades.) Most will eventually need treatment. Another large group consists of young adults infected by shared injection needles during the current heroin and opioid drug epidemics.

In all, an estimated four million people are infected with hep C nationwide. Cancer and autoimmune diseases are not disappearing either, nor their expensive drugs.

That's fortunate for UMHS. If Obamacare's demise brings a fresh flood of uninsured or underinsured patients, it will need every dollar its outpatient pharmacies can earn, and more. ■

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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

SUPER PAIR

Ann Arbor's biggest elementary school district may also be its most diverse—and most misunderstood.

by Shelley Daily

"We are a mystery to a lot of people," admits Bryant-Pattengill parent Ariel Hurwitz-Greene. Her eight-year-old son Nathaniel has attended Bryant, off Stone School Rd. south of Packard, since kindergarten; next year he and his classmates will move to Pattengill, north of Packard a couple of miles west, for grades three through five. With nearly 600 students, Bryant-Pattengill is Ann Arbor's biggest elementary district by both area and enrollment. The "super pair" embraces twelve south-side neighborhoods—from the small ranch homes, apartments, and rentals around Bryant to the affluent estates of Lake Forest and Briar Hill. With home prices ranging "from $100,000 to $800,000," says Hurwitz-Greene, a Realtor, it's a district "unlike any other."

Although Hurwitz-Greene grew up in Burns Park, she and her husband chose "the perfect, happy house" near Pattengill for their family when they moved back to Ann Arbor from Chicago five years ago. While some elementary schools and their surrounding neighborhoods "have a Norman Rockwell picture to them," she thinks others don't get the attention they deserve. Hurwitz-Greene calls Pattengill "the up-and-coming Water Hill"—with RoosRoast, Fraser's, and Morgan & York all within walking distance. Bryant is sometimes a tougher sell for prospective families.

Aaron Jackson, whose son attends Bryant, says some may see the neighborhood's affordable housing as a negative. "People who make assumptions about rental properties might also make assumptions about the people who live there," he says. As an AAPS substitute teacher who's worked in schools throughout the district, he has a different perspective. "The education at Bryant is just as exceptional," he says. "I haven't seen any differences."

"Oftentimes parents will go by what they hear, or what they see when they drive in the neighborhood," explains Bryant principal Roberta Heyward. "But it's always a different experience when they come into the building and they see our students and meet our teachers … and they'll be in awe. I'll ask them: 'What was your perception?' and they'll tell me, 'Oh, I was looking on a website, or I drove through the neighborhood. We have a lot of rental properties in the neighborhood—but we are so much more than that."

Bryant and Pattengill each house about 300 students, and more than a dozen languages are spoken at each school. At Pattengill, 37 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, and 28 percent do at Bryant—not the highest rates in the district, but higher than average. Heyward notes that Bryant's rate has dropped significantly—last year's was 38 percent, and in the two years prior it was 40 percent. Pattengill principal Melita Alston expects her school's rate will fall too.

Heyward doesn't know why the numbers are looking up, but assumes that with a stronger economy, more families are working. "We have doctors, lawyers, and dentists, and then we have families who are looking for jobs," she explains. For the struggling families, she says, "We wear many hats because we're not just educators. Sometimes we have to be the social worker. Sometimes we have to be the food pantry. It just depends. My team at any moment is ready to switch hats and take care of the needs of that student."

"I always tell parents, 'This is the real world,'" Heyward says of her school. "Our students are able to adapt, they're able to get along, and that helps them transition on."

Heyward works so closely with Alston that Alston jokes they are princi-"pals." "We talk on the phone daily … because we're sister schools it takes a lot, so you want a partner who will work well with you," says Alston. "I think that's a strength."

"Our planning has to be intentional, especially with parents who have kids at both schools," Heyward adds. The schools share one PTO and one yearbook, and virtually all events are held jointly, including the annual back-to-school picnic, math night, family reading night, international festival, and ice cream social.

The Super Pair was born in the Eighties, when Ann Arbor, like many other districts, was closing schools due to sharply declining enrollment. A citizen-run Committee on Excellence was created to redraw the elementary districts, with the twin goals of using buildings more efficiently and achieving greater racial balance. In addition to closing seven schools, a "creative solution, of pairing two schools, was advanced …" AAPS superintendent Jeanice Swift writes in an email. Griff McDonald, who headed the committee, says then superintendent Dick Benjamin was responsible for leading the charge for more diversity.

"One of Dick's concerns was he didn't want a school that was one race, creed, or color," recalls McDonald. According to a 1998 Observer article, the racial disparities were glaring: Newport, one of the schools that was closed, was "virtually all-white," while Northside (now Ann Arbor STEAM) was 70 to 80 percent African American. In addition, "the poorest students in the city were heavily concentrated at just three schools: Bryant, Dicken, and Northside."

The committee initially proposed creating two different pairs, Bryant-Stone and Mack-Haisley. However, because "Bryant was bulging and Pattengill was shrinking," Benjamin explains, a new solution evolved: "To keep Pattengill open, the best solution was to split grade levels to achieve racial balance and to balance capacity." Bryant and Pattengill were merged and also gained students from Stone and Clinton elementaries, which closed.

Benjamin—who went on to serve as superintendent of the Nashville and Cobb County (Georgia) schools and is semi-retired in Atlanta—says one of the benefits of the pairing is that it "created a small-school atmosphere so that the teachers can focus on a few grade levels—that creates a narrowed field of interest and a mutual understanding among teachers." For Bryant, that was an "early childhood focus."

He says the "thought process" that created the Super Pair was quite different from other school districts that "just shift kids around so they fit. I've always been proud of the ability of Ann Arbor to lead" on these issues, he says. Superintendent Swift writes that "… it is wonderful that each of these neighborhoods has the opportunity to expand its boundaries and include the other."

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

MARK BIALEK

(Left) Princi-"pals" Melita Alston and Roberta Heyward. (Right) A fashion show at International Night.

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SUPER PAIR

But inclusion wasn't an easy sell for some. Some parents whose children were slated for Bryant after the restructuring held the attitude that "my kid is not going to *that* neighborhood," according to a Super Pair staff member who doesn't want to be named. Others skipped Bryant in favor of other elementary schools and later sent their children to Pattengill. Many were wary about "sending little kids [to school] on buses." And for at least a decade, "the schools ran separately" the staff member says, unlike "the cohesiveness of today."

Rick O'Neill, who was principal of Stone when it closed and then Bryant's first principal under the Super Pair structure, says he's "glad to hear" about today's unity. "Back then we were dealing with the emotions of loss with the two schools [Stone, now Pathways to Success, and Clinton, now the Jewish Community Center] closing and trying to energize the community in a positive way. We were managing this big change bringing these communities together," in addition to the logistical obstacles of combining staff, building renovations, and busing very young students.

Last April at Bryant-Pattengill's International Festival, the audience breaks into wild applause for fifth grader Aaron Puno's rendition of the pop song "Manila," a hit in his parents' native Philippines. Students representing Vietnam, Nepal, Palestine, Nigeria, and other countries take the stage in native costume for the fashion show. On the walls of the lunchroom some fifty flags hang as permanent reminders of Pattengill's diverse student body. "I just added a New Zealand flag," Alston says. "I just keep ordering them."

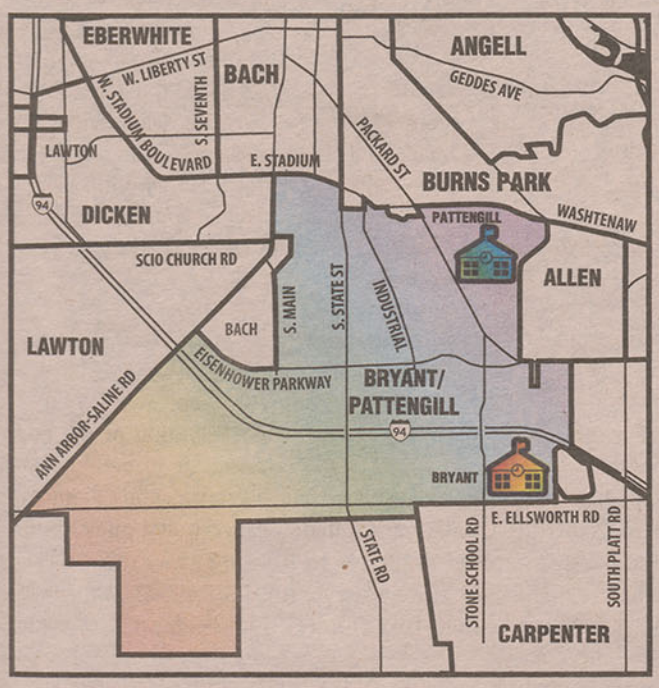
In one room, volunteers serve up Cuban-inspired twice-fried plantains, chicken noodle soup with matzo balls, Middle Eastern *mujadara,* and other international cuisine delivered by school families. In a classroom, parent Qing Sun, who moved to Ann Arbor from China with her family as part of the U-M visiting scholar program, is helping visitors use chopsticks to pick up dried beans and cotton balls. At another table, Aaron Jackson is teaching kids how to write a letter from the Hebrew alphabet.

"What's really cool is how normal all this becomes for my son," he says. "I like that he doesn't expect that 'everyone will be like me.'" Jackson's wife, Erika Leiphart, agrees, and says diversity is a main reason they appreciate the school.

School-rating websites often don't give a full picture of the pair, says Hurwitz-Greene, "because we're a split—we're not rated together." Heyward explains that "we probably have the highest diversity in terms of our students who come from all walks of life, and so we don't have students who are coming to us on the same level playing field. And so that will impact some of the state assessments that are taken at Pattengill." Although Pattengill's 2016 state standardized testing scores lag

behind some AAPS elementary schools for third and fourth graders, its fifth grade scores are comparable.

Fifth-grade teacher Avery Hubbard has worked at Pattengill for nearly twenty years, and her daughter is now a student there. She sees the Super Pair "not as your neighborhood school, but as your community school." She says she thrives on the diversity, which has been at the forefront of discussions since the presidential election. Though everyone at Pattengill signed an "election compact" to keep political discussions neutral and positive, she says most of her students "were devastated" by the results. They asked to write a class letter to president-elect Donald Trump. "They said, 'We have to let him know that this is the true America [at Pattengill]. Everyone is an immigrant.' " Hubbard notes that although there have been reports of racist incidents in schools since the election, "we haven't had any backlash. That's what happens at a diverse school."



Flags from fifty countries hang at Pattengill. "Playdates will take you all over south Ann Arbor," a parent says.

Her class includes African American, Asian, and Latino students—as well as students of Greek, German, Polish, and Italian descent. She estimates the school's families are roughly one-third upper class, one-third middle class, and one-third from families poor enough to qualify for reduced-price or free lunch. There are high-performing students as well as "challenged students for whom we still need to foster the love of learning. We get 'em all."

Claire Dahl was among the first parents to send her kids to the newly formed Bryant-Pattengill. Dahl and her husband raised their two kids in the Georgetown neighborhood, whose prior school, Clinton, was on the chopping block. "I was very much against it, because we were losing our neighborhood walkable school," she says. "We didn't like the busing idea."

Dahl remembers "there was a lot of stress, tension, and angry words at school board meetings" about the closings and subsequent pairing. Outraged parents even tried to recall members of the school board. On the positive side, she says, the pairing brought "lots of teacher options" (Bryant currently has six kindergartens, including a Young Fives class). Dahl calls it a "sociological experiment, and it worked." Though moving Clinton students to Bryant was "us invading their world," she says, Bryant parents were gracious, and with the expanded neighborhood boundaries, her kids had a lot of friends by the time they moved on to Tappan Middle School. "It didn't hurt my kids," she says. "These were unfounded fears."

Kathy Brady—a Lake Forest resident who has two kids at Bryant and one at Pattengill and serves as a PTO co-president—agrees. She says the Super Pair helps to produce "global thinkers" and the diversity helps them as they "move into adulthood in friendships and careers." They are "not just learning from a textbook."

"Playdates will take you all over south Ann Arbor," Brady says. Pattengill parent Lisa Treat agrees: "You are not just in a bubble of your neighborhood. It grows me as a person." Brady also appreciates that "the second graders get a chance to shine and are prepped for the big time" as they move on to Pattengill.

Although Dahl's kids had a positive experience as inaugural students of the Super Pair, she recalls a few challenges. Kids couldn't stay after school with teachers or hang out at the playground because they had to catch the bus home. "Some of that cross-age interaction was lost" as well, she says. Also, she recalls, "We were told there'd be busing between the schools, but that didn't happen." She also wonders why there were never more Super Pairs.

Former superintendent Benjamin says he's not sure that replicating the Super Pair concept is what AAPS needs now. What's important, he says, is that it grew out of "community problem solving and community-generated solutions. People knew that they were being heard."

Principals Heyward and Alston understand that competition for students is stiff. "Parents are shopping for schools before they even have school-age kids," says Alston. "There is choice—it wasn't always like that."

Hurwitz-Greene wants prospective Super Pair parents to keep an open mind. She and her husband are committed to the school—and their neighborhood. They're currently building an addition to their house so they can stay in the area. "As the only pair, it's something to learn about—not to be afraid of," she tells other parents. "Once they learn about it, they'll be blown away." ■

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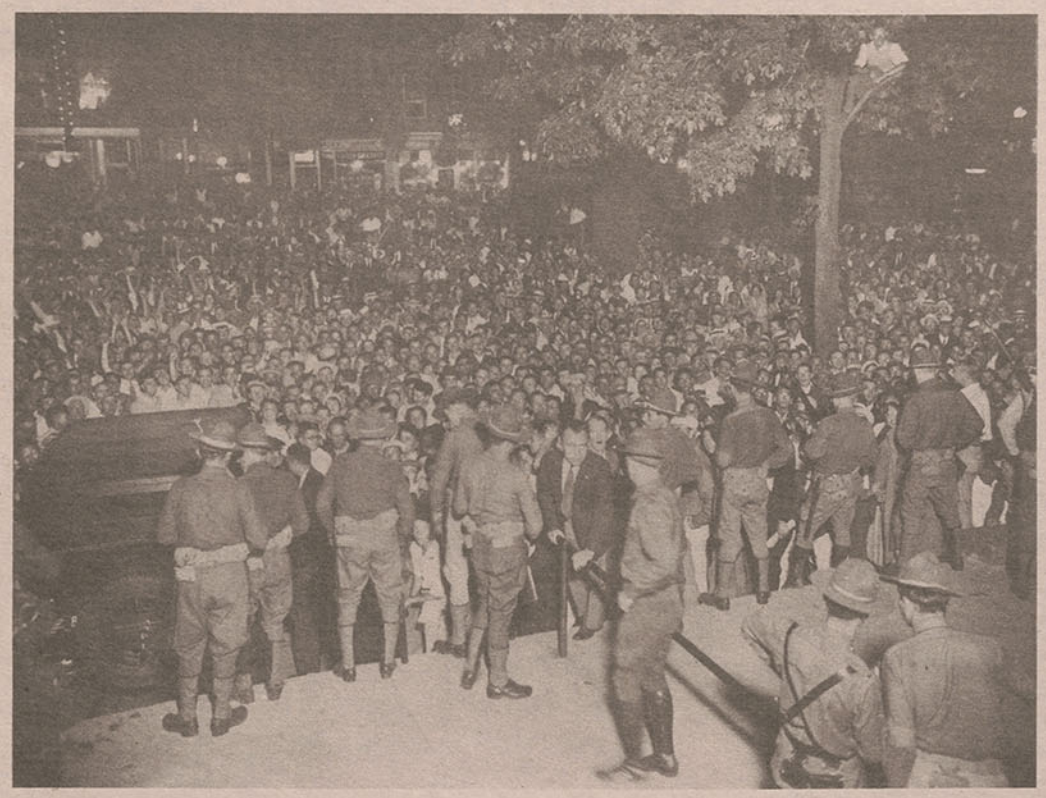
Lynch Law on Huron St.

In 1931, a mob threatened to avenge a quadruple murder.



DETROIT MIRROR

(Left and top) state troopers and National Guardsmen joined police and deputies to hold off the mob at the county courthouse. (Right) a victim's funeral in Cleveland.

by Cynthia Furlong Reynolds

This 1931 Ann Arbor lynch mob photo —"iconic," if ever there was an "iconic" photo of an Ann Arbor historical event—has suddenly turned up for sale on eBay, posted on a "Buy it Now" page, priced at $53.00. Unseen by local eyes for eighty-three years, it would be a pity if it were lost to us now.

—Email from Wystan Stevens, December 2014.

The Observer bought the photo and a slightly different image that Stevens spotted on the auction site a few days later. Another recipient of the local historian's email, Linda Walker, bought several others. Typed labels on the back of the eight-by-ten black-and-white prints identified them as having been taken for the *Detroit Mirror.*

The first photo that caught Stevens' eye is labeled, "Part of mob of 20,000 that kept milling around jail during [the] trial of three confessed torch murderers. The crowd became unmanageable immediately after the arrival of prisoners from Ypsilanti, and National Guard was called out to guard against lynching." The second shows Michigan State Police officers and National Guardsmen standing shoulder-to-shoulder on the courthouse steps, rifles in hand.

A third depicts another crowd at a funeral of two young women in Cleveland.

The fourth shows "Fred Smith, 22, ex-convict, and confessed murderer." His nose bloody, lip swollen, and shirt torn and bloody, the young man stares dazedly; he's surrounded by state police officers and the members of Ford Motor Company's private security force who captured him.

The final photo shows Smith with his parents at Jackson Prison. The caption says, "Smith's mother, who is totally blind, refused to believe him guilty of the terrible crimes, even though he made a full confession to her of his part in the murder orgy."

Though Stevens found the photos, he didn't have time to research their history. He died in July 2015, leaving the gruesome story behind his eBay find to be told by others.

Throughout the long hot and humid afternoon of August 14, 1931, a mob of enraged men descended on the jails in Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, then surged over to the Washtenaw County courthouse, calling for the lynching of three men who on that day had been apprehended, tried, and convicted of what were, to that date, Michigan's most horrific murders.

Most lynchings in America took place in the South, and most victims were African American. A tally maintained by Tuskegee University counted 4,743 mob killings between 1882 and 1968, with "Negroes" accounting for 3,446 of the victims. Even in Michigan—the first English-speaking government in the world to bar capital punishment for murder—Tuskegee's researchers counted eight extralegal killings: seven white men and one "mulatto laborer." In 1931, the cries for blood outside the Washtenaw County courthouse were fired by the news that one of the men on trial for the murder of four local teenagers, David Blackstone, was African American. One of his white accomplices testified that Blackstone had raped one of the young women twice—before and after he killed her.

Newspapers nationwide avidly followed the case that began early in the morning of August 11. Blackstone, thirty-one; Smith, twenty-one; and nineteen-year-old Frank Oliver had been drinking whiskey at an Ypsilanti speakeasy when they decided to rob someone. By the time their spree ended, robbery was the least of their crimes, and local residents were calling for their blood.

The growing crowd milling outside the courthouse knew that the men were accused of robbing, raping, beating, and burning the bodies of four teenagers. What they didn't know was the role that Harry Bennett, Henry Ford's violent and highly controversial director of security, had played in the drama.

In 1998, the late Judge Edward D. Deake published his memories of the murders in *Gleanings,* the official publication of the Ypsilanti Historical Society. "The date, August 11, 1931, is forever etched into my memory," wrote Deake, who was ten years old at the time. "A catastrophic event changed my perception [of] the outside world … Ypsilanti was a quiet college town … struggling with the problems of the Great Depression when it was faced with four shocking murders known to us as the Torch Murders."

The victims were fifteen-year-old Thomas Wheatley and Henry Lore of Ypsilanti, and two girls from Cleveland: Anna Harrison, seventeen; and Lore's cousin, Vivian Gold, sixteen.

"We will never know all of the tragic events of this evening," the late judge wrote. Wheatley had informed his parents that "he was going to attend a De Molay [youth group] meeting in Ypsilanti. There was no meeting scheduled … The two girls announced they intended to attend a motion picture show."

Instead, the four teenagers met and drove to a dance in Willis, then ate a late-night meal at Grandma's Pantry in Milan. The two couples ended up parking in Peninsular Grove near Ypsilanti, a spot known to locals as Lovers' Lane.

Tragically, three armed men met them there.

According to court records reported in newspapers around the country, Blackstone confessed, "On Monday night we

thought we would go and rob a gambling game over at Milan. We … went over there and it didn't look good to us. We said we would go down Lovers' Lane and knock off some of these here petters. They always is easy. We went down and saw this car."

The three men robbed the teenagers of all they had: two dollars and a watch. Unfortunately, Deake writes, Smith realized that Lore and Wheatley had recognized him. Smith convinced Blackstone and Oliver to drive the teens to Tuttle Hill outside Ypsilanti and leave them there, giving the robbers more time to get away.

At Tuttle Hill, the teens pleaded to be let go, promising not report the men. But Blackstone growled "Yes, and then we land in the jug."

"It was a horrifying scenario," Deake writes. According to Frank Oliver's testimony, Blackstone raped Anna Harrison, then reached for Vivian Gold, who told him "she would rather die." Blackstone shot her, then the other teenagers. When Lore tried to get up and fight, the boys' heads were beaten with stones and Blackstone beat Anna Harrison with a wrench.

The three men then loaded the corpses into the car and drove through Ypsilanti, passing the Wheatley house before turning down US-23 to a country road south of Willis. They stopped near the Washtenaw-Wayne county line, where, Oliver testified, Blackstone again assaulted one of the dead girls, then doused the car and bodies with gasoline and lit them on fire.

Several years ago, Ypsi historian Gregory A. Fournier added important details to Deake's account in a blog post titled "Harry Bennett's Role in the Ypsilanti Torch Murders of August 11, 1931."

The lovers' lane where the teens were accosted was not far from Bennett's home, a fortified American castle with crenellated gun towers overlooking the Huron River on Geddes Rd. Fournier included an extended quote from the 2003 book *Henry Ford: Critical Evaluations in Business and Management* that placed Bennett at the center of the investigation:

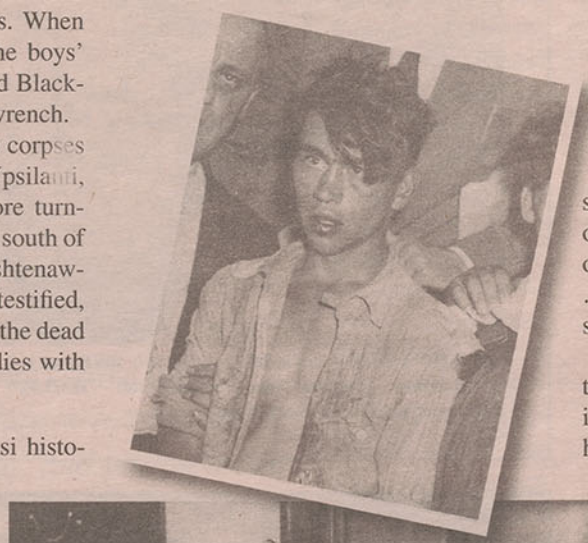
> Bennett was invited to participate in the case by a local sheriff, and he soon had his Servicemen swarming the countryside … Then he uncovered two informers who named a couple of possible suspects. Taking one of the suspects in tow, Bennett, together with Robert Taylor, the head of the Ford Sociological Department, and one of his towering Ford Servicemen, took the young man to the basement of his fortified house. There, while one of his companions created an enormous racket with an electric [weight] reducing machine, Bennett undertook to get a confession out of the suspect.
>
> [Bennett] interrupted this job occasionally to dash upstairs and pour a beer for the county sheriff who visited him inopportunely before his guest had begun to talk. He tactfully neglected to advise the sheriff what was going on below, and it was not until he had results that he turned his captive over to the police.

Deake's account credits the police with breaking the case, after Smith's landlord turned in one of the guns used in the crime, saying that Smith had given the weapon to him to cover his rent and told him he had to "leave town right away."

Smith was captured and led authorities to Oliver and Blackstone. Whether those authorities were the police or Bennett's men, the photos make it plain that sometime between their apprehension and trial, all three were beaten.

Once the men were in custody, events moved very swiftly. This timeline is based on Deake's account and court records released to the press:

5:35 p.m, April 14: Justice Jay H. Payne holds the arraignment in Ypsilanti. Deake writes that "Blackstone's confession would not survive the Miranda test to-



The criminals had planned only to rob the two couples. Things turned deadly when Fred Smith (top, after his capture, and above, during a prison visit with his parents) realized he'd been recognized.

day." Witnesses observed that his face was "bruised and swollen" and the clothes on all the three men were torn and bloody.

6:40 p.m.: The men are transported past a growing mob to the county courthouse in Ann Arbor. National Guardsmen quickly arrive to back up the Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor police departments. The sheriff deputizes local World War I veterans.

8:56 p.m.: Judge George W. Sample convicts all three men and sentences each of them to four consecutive terms of life imprisonment at hard labor. "I don't wonder that the crowd is howling for vengeance," Deake quotes Sample as saying. "If they had listened to the testimony we have had to listen to here … I am afraid they wouldn't be as civil as they are. But you know it is the law of civilization that we must not indulge in Mob Law or rule. The Law must take its course."

Armed policemen, state troopers, National Guardsmen, and deputies stand shoulder to shoulder on the courthouse steps during the court proceedings. After the verdict is declared, the troopers dispense tear gas into the crowd while Harry Bennett's servicemen surround the three murderers, who, Fournier writes, are "hustled down the back stairs of the courthouse and shoved into the backseat of a souped-up Mercury, driven by Harry Bennett himself, with a three-car police escort and delivered alive to the state prison in Jackson."

11:26 p.m.: The men are imprisoned.

The day after the trial, Governor Wilber Brucker officially thanked the officers who had solved the murders so promptly. No mention was made of Bennett's role. The next week, the Associated Press reported, "Wholesale raids on moonshine whisky dispensaries here [Ann Arbor] and elsewhere over the state constituted the aftermath of last week's quadruple torch murders … blaming bootleg liquor for the savage slaying[s]."

Bennett's role in the apprehension of the Torch Murderers was not publicized in his lifetime. For another fourteen years, he worked at Henry Ford's side, harassing and threatening union representatives and Ford workers. Ford even suggested Bennett as his successor, but in 1945 control of the Ford Motor Company instead passed to his grandson, Henry Ford II—who immediately fired Bennett.

David Blackstone died in the state prison at Marquette in 1950. Ironically, the man who killed his victims by bashing in their skulls was reportedly killed while using a stone crusher at the penitentiary.

That same year, Frank Oliver sought a new trial; his attorney argued that Oliver had been "beaten up by the arresting officers and forced to confess a part in the crime," and denied legal counsel, Deake wrote. The request was denied.

Fred Smith also died in prison in Marquette on February 17, 1967. He was fifty-seven. At the time, the *Detroit Free Press* speculated, "The four murders might never have occurred if Smith had not feared that Lore, a boyhood playmate, might have recognized him."

That October, Frank Oliver was paroled. "Oliver has compiled an outstanding record while serving over 36 years on his sentence," the parole board concluded. According to Deake, he died a free man sometime in the late 1990s.

"Although the City of Ypsilanti suffered a very bad reputation as a result of this murder case," Deake concluded, "it should be commended for enforcing the law"—and thwarting Washtenaw County's only known lynch mob. ■

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FEATURING: WINTER VEGETABLES

CHEF'S TABLE BY HARRIET SEAVER

Mexican Cuisine and Tios have long been vegetable-centric. Even though we're in the throes of a Michgan January, you can still pull off a mouth-watering array of winter vegetables.

We have been featuring butternut squash this fall: diced and roasted in garlic, salt, butter and chipotle (just a touch of spice). We offer this as a side dish but you can also have it as your filling in a burrito or enchiladas instead of the usual meat. It's amazing!

For those of you who just can't face a fully vegetarian option, come check out our newest offering - spicy collard greens. Slow simmered in our carnitas stock with a dash of our extra hot salsa and a few other secret ingredients. We think we can convert you, or at least maybe you'll finish your vegetables without too much coaxing!

FATHER TEQUILA
BY JEREMY SEAVER

Snow outside, fire inside and a snifter of tequila? I couldn't be happier. I prefer añejos when it's cold outside. The oak flavors and aromas seem to fit well with being inside when it's cold. Right now I'm really enjoying Herradura Añejo. Dark chocolate, cherry, cinnamon and hints of bourbon sweetness. It's the perfect cure for cabin fever.

HOT HEADS
BY TIM SEAVER

When concocting a sauce or salsa, try roasting and or smoking not only the peppers, but any other vegetables you will be using. Roasting will bring out several different flavors and enrich the overall taste.

Smoking vegetables adds unique flavors depending on the wood used. Fruit woods are a great option. Check out Alton Brown's guide to smoking as a great starting point for a "would-be" smoker.

BAKER'S CORNER
BY JESSICA GERSTENBERGER

I hated mushrooms as a kid, but now I can't get enough of them. Our portobello mushrooms are a wonderful vegetarian option that you can add to almost anything. We get giant caps from Frog Holler Produce and roast them in olive oil and garlic before dicing into bite-sized pieces. My favorite way to enjoy them is in a quesadilla with a side of guacamole. The richness of the portobellos goes so well with the nuttiness of the fresh guac.

A more unique way we prepare the mushrooms is for our fajitas. We slice the caps thin and marinate them in Mrs. Dog's Jerk marinade. The marinade has tons of spices going on but the mushrooms still retain their earthy umami flavor. Paired with sautéed onions and peppers, loaded with sour cream and guac and our vegan Spanish rice, I promise you won't miss the meat.

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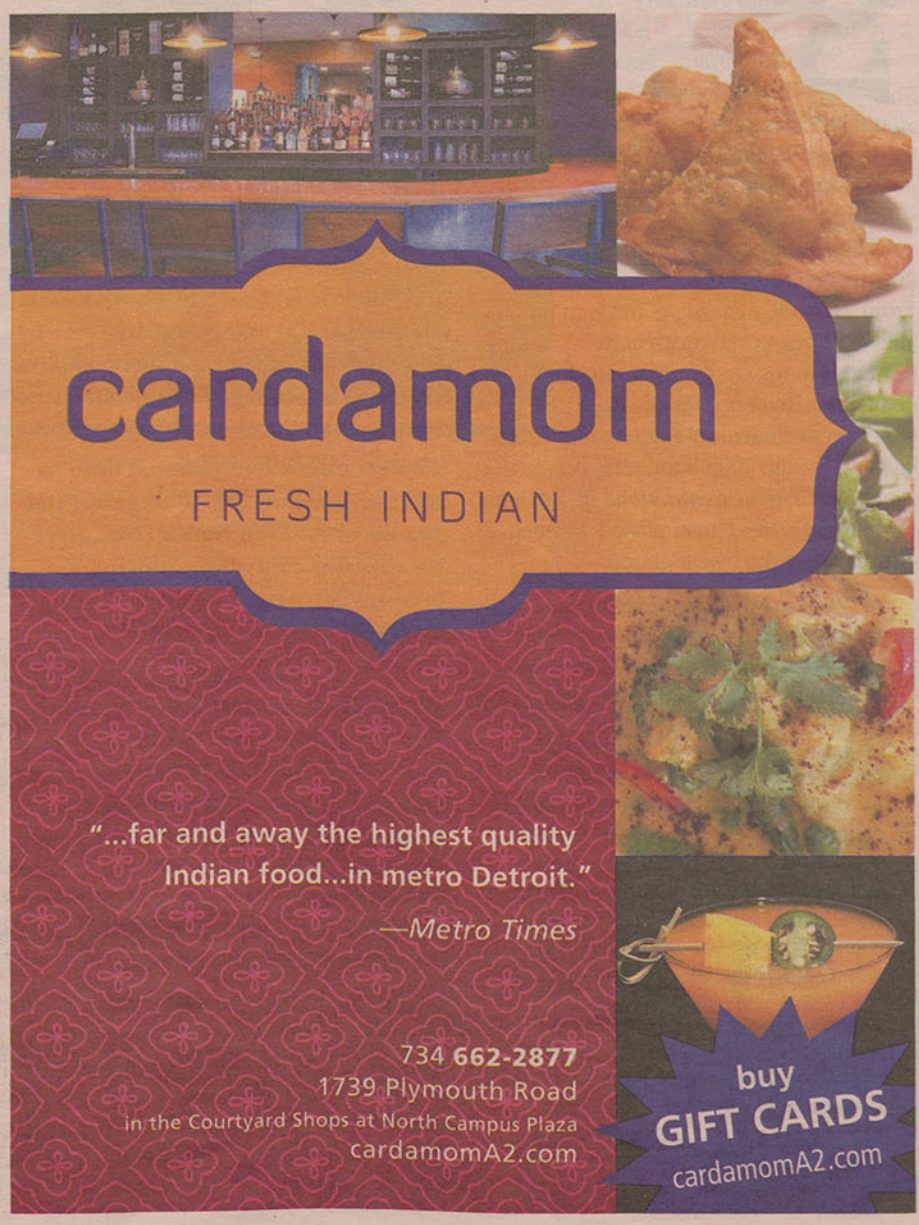
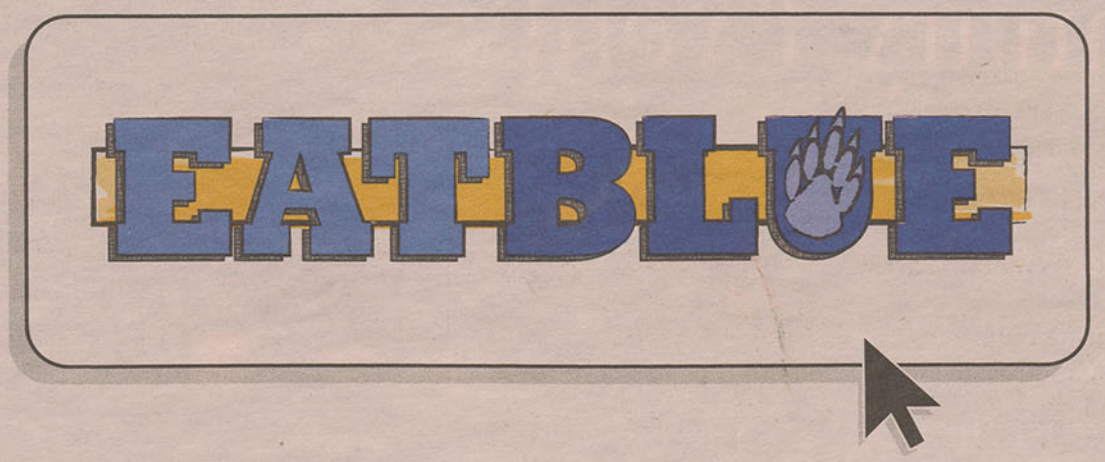


Virtual Food Delivery

EatBlue, where are you?



A thought floating through many adult minds around 6 p.m. is: "I want dinner delivered to my door, but not pizza." When I Googled "Who delivers in Ann Arbor?" I got several options: EatBlue, EatStreet, GrubHub, and Yelp's Eat24.

Eenie, meenie … hmmmm … EatBlue … is that a local thing? According to a 2013 article in AnnArbor.com, EatBlue was invented "ten years ago by U-M students," though it doesn't name them. Holy 2003, Batman! That was before smartphones and "there's an app for that."

So what's going on with EatBlue now? And how does virtual dinner delivery, via any of these interfaces, work?

I chose EatBlue out of loyalty to those nameless inventors. Its website looks like a 2003 Internet time capsule, with its eye-hurting maize-and-blue graphics and large photos of food, but I wasn't there long—once I chose a restaurant, Shalimar, and put an order in motion, I was handed off to EatStreet's much more elegant website. Turns out that EatBlue is now owned by EatStreet.

EatBlue's website looks like a 2003 Internet time capsule, but I wasn't there long—once I chose a restaurant, Shalimar, and put an order in motion, I was handed off to EatStreet's much more elegant website.

From there, my dinner slid into motion with a startling rapidity. I was working from my laptop, so I didn't try the EatStreet mobile app, but once the order was in, EatStreet handed me off to another app, Zoomer. I switched to my phone and followed the texted instructions to download it.

Zoomer is like Uber for food delivery—it locates a driver, picks up your food, and gives your phone a honk when it's at the door, in my case thirty-four minutes after I ordered it. And because EatStreet had already collected my payment on a credit card and added a tip, the driver handed me the bag and sped away—no shuffling around on the doorstep waiting to see if more dollar bills would drop.

In the bag was exactly what I had ordered—but there was one small problem. I had typed in my order at 2:26 p.m., curious about where in the process I could specify that I wanted it later, not now. The comment box was the only place, so I typed in "deliver at 6 pm today, thanks." It was now 3:00.

For me, this early delivery was not a real problem. I was working at home, and chicken tikka masala and *saag paneer* reheat well. Good thing, though, I didn't use that comment box to say something like "I'm allergic to peanuts. If you cook this in peanut oil I will die."

That's the EatBlue/EatStreet experience from the field. What's going on behind the curtain?

I started with EatBlue's "contact us" link to find out if the company still exists and who the original student inventors were. My messages were not answered.

So I turned to EatStreet and eventually found myself talking to "Jerad" in a chat box.

Jerad: Thank you for contacting EatStreet! How can I help you?

Observer: I am a business reporter from Ann Arbor, Michigan. I'm trying to find out about EatBlue (Ann Arbor). Who can I talk to?

Jerad: EatStreet does process online orders for EatBlue, but I would think this would be the best place to start: http://www.eatblue.com/contact-us

I told Jerad that I'd already tried that and asked if he had a phone number for a real person. He told me to try 866–715–7202, EatStreet's customer service number.

Nine rings later, a recording said, "You're hungry! We're here to help!," offered to direct my call, and told me my call was being recorded. (Back atcha, EatStreet.) I eventually reached a human, but didn't quite catch the name because the line broke up—Kathy, perhaps, or Katie?

I identified myself as a business reporter from the Ann Arbor Observer and told her I was trying to find out more about EatStreet and EatBlue. I asked her whom I could talk to.

"Heh, heh," said Kathy or Katie, which I took as a subtle apology for the disappointing barrage of deflection she knew she was about to issue. "I'm not a hundred percent sure offhand, but the best way is to just go ahead and email us at eatstreet.com and provide all your contact information."

I told her I had already done that; she told me to hang in there and someone would eventually answer "as soon as they have some free time."

As for what EatStreet is, she explained that the Madison, Wisconsin, company is "an online ordering platform. We work with over 20,000 restaurants across the country. We provide online ordering for restaurants who, for whatever reason, are unable to put up their own systems themselves. … We are not yet providing delivery for these restaurants, but we're testing it right now."

I spoke to two restaurant owners who use EatBlue/EatStreet, and both requested that I not name them. They explained, as Kathy/Katie had, that EatStreet and its competitors are simply computer interfaces. Restaurants sign up; EatStreet puts up their menus and takes a cut of the money. Neither restaurant owner I talked to wanted to share the nuts and bolts of the transaction, though they're probably not particularly interesting. What is interesting is that the whole point of this exercise, from my standpoint, was to get dinner delivered. *And EatStreet doesn't deliver.* Shalimar cooked my dinner, and Zoomer delivered it.

So what does EatStreet do? "It's basically an electronic food court," said one of the restaurant owners. Also, by bizarre coincidence, this restaurant owner told me that she was a personal friend of one of those mysterious student inventors of EatBlue. His name, she said, was Dave, though she wouldn't give me his last name. He lives in Maryland—she didn't think he had ever been a student at U-M, but she

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Ohad Naharin, artistic director
Saturday, January 7 // 8 pm
Sunday, January 8 // 2 pm
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UMS presents the North American premiere of *Last Work*, a new evening-length piece by Ohad Naharin performed by 18 dancers from one of the world's preeminent dance companies. With its shifts from sustained, meditative movement to frenzied bursts of energy, this exploration of human motion — and emotion — generates powerful images that will not soon be forgotten. A UMS Renegade Event.

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Idiot-Syncrasy
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Igor Urzelai and **Moreno Solinas**, creators
Thursday, January 12 // 7:30 pm
Friday, January 13 // 8 pm
Saturday, January 14 // 8 pm
Arthur Miller Theatre

Direct from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, these two London-based dancers take audiences on a unique journey of self-discovery, exploring both togetherness and solitude, and reclaiming dance as an agent for change. "Idiot-Syncrasy feels very human. More than that: humane...I left feeling an expanded person." (*LondonDance*) A UMS Renegade Event.

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HD Broadcast from the
National Theatre, London

Harold Pinter's *No Man's Land*

Starring **Patrick Stewart** and **Ian McKellen**
Sean Mathias, director
Sunday, January 15 // 7 pm
Michigan Theater

Prague Philharmonia

Emmanuel Villaume, conductor
Sarah Chang, violin
Andrew von Oeyen, piano
Thursday, January 19 // 7:30 pm
Hill Auditorium

Founded in 1994, The Prague Philharmonia demonstrates its tremendous love for the music it performs, with a sparkling passion that makes every listener return home from its concerts full of *joie de vivre*.

PROGRAM

Smetana	"Die Moldau" from *Má vlast*
Dvořák	Violin Concerto in a minor, Op. 53
Mendelssohn	Piano Concerto No. 1 in g minor, Op. 25
Dvořák	Symphony No. 8 in G Major, Op. 88

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On Behalf of Nature
Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble

Music and direction by **Meredith Monk**
Friday, January 20 // 8 pm
Power Center

Drawing inspiration from writers and researchers who have sounded the alarm on the precarious state of our global ecosystem, Meredith Monk and her acclaimed Vocal Ensemble create a space where human, natural, and spiritual elements are woven into a delicate whole, illuminating the interconnection and interdependency of us all. "A rapturous new work...some of the finest music Monk has yet written." (*Los Angeles Times*)

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Beethoven String Quartet Cycle
Concerts 3 & 4
Takács Quartet

Saturday, January 21 // 8 pm
Sunday, January 22 //4 pm
Rackham Auditorium

The Takács Quartet returns for the third and fourth installments of their six-concert cycle this season.

PROGRAM (CONCERT 3: SAT 1/21)

Quartet No. 5 in A Major, Op. 18, No. 5
Quartet No. 4 in c minor, Op. 18, No. 4
Quartet No. 15 in a minor, Op. 132

PROGRAM (CONCERT 4: SUN 1/22)

Quartet No. 3 in D Major, Op. 18, No. 3
Quartet No. 8 in e minor, Op. 59, No. 2
Quartet No. 12 in E-flat Major, Op. 127

PRESENTING SPONSOR (SATURDAY)
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HD Broadcast from the
National Theatre, London

The Audience

Starring **Helen Mirren**
Stephen Daldry, director
Sunday, January 22 // 7 pm
Michigan Theater

Inon Barnatan, piano
Anthony McGill, clarinet
Alisa Weilerstein, cello

Sunday, January 29 // 4 pm
Rackham Auditorium

This concert of beloved clarinet trios includes a new work by Joseph Hallman, a prolific young composer based in Philadelphia, which was co-commissioned by UMS as part of the Music Accord commissioning consortium. The performance also includes Beethoven's playful Clarinet Trio in B-flat and Brahms's Clarinet Trio, written near the end of his career and prompting a musicologist friend to proclaim that "it is as though the instruments are in love with each other."

PROGRAM

Beethoven	Clarinet Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 11
Hallman	short stories (UMS co-commission)
Brahms	Clarinet Trio in a minor, Op. 114

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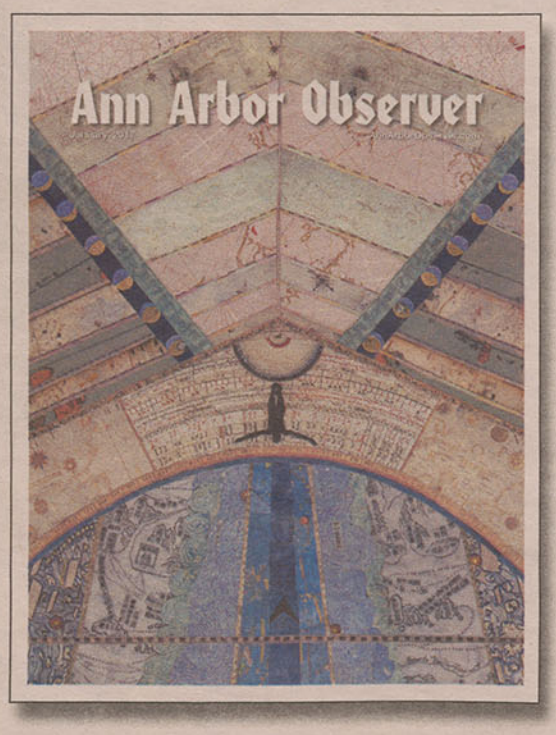

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quick bite

Babo on E. Washington at N. Division closed for three weeks this fall; the windows were papered over, and cryptic signs touted a makeover in the works.

What a makeover it was: formerly a mini-grocery and prepared food bar, babo (they don't capitalize it) reopened in mid-November looking like a spacious white-linen restaurant. It isn't, quite: when you walk in you must digest a three-page menu while standing at the counter, then order, pay, and tip (unless you're opening a tab) before finding a table and awaiting food delivery. That "fast casual" setup feels at odds with the elegant new decor.

With accents of green and maize and the motto "Nourishing Our Community," it's no surprise that vegetables dominate in the hearty bowls: thick black bean chili with chunks of sweet potato and peppers, for example. Or a bold salad of vinaigrette-drenched mustard greens, *farro,* meaty mixed mushrooms, walnuts, and aged cheese. At $6 and $10 respectively, these are some of the best values on the menu.

A fresh but tiny fillet of Michigan rainbow trout atop wild rice and edamame seems out of place listed among "big plates." Likewise, a *bulgogi* rib-eye cheesesteak with Brinery kimchi was tasty, but petite—it disappeared in a few bites.

Small meals leave room for dessert, and here the new babo (with its same old lowercase initial "b") shines. Fudgy chocolate cake, spicy pumpkin pie, coconut-flavored chocolate pudding, and big vegan cookies are delicious—and remarkable for using natural sweeteners like agave, maple syrup, and even parsnips instead of refined sugar. A jump up to the coffee counter was warranted to further savor these—or we could have chosen wine, especially if we'd thought to open a tab.

In a corner of the airy space, a few dozen groceries remain—mostly snacks like fruit and nuts, chocolate, and chips, but you can still buy dried pasta and jars of sauce if you are determined to cook. And folks in the nearby high-rises will find it easier than ever to grab a big salad with a protein topper and call it a meal. A sign on the cold case suggests bringing packaged sandwiches to the grill for warming.

As before, babo is a place you can pay ten bucks for a cookie and a juice—perhaps the brightly hued "Red Lipstick," a cold-pressed blend of carrot, beet, apple, and ginger.

And now you can also run your bill to a hundred bucks for meal and dessert for three.

Babo, 403 E. Washington. 997–8495. Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–10 p.m., Sat.–Sun. 9 a.m.–10 p.m. baboannarbor.com

—M.B. Lewis

gave me his cell so I could clear up the mystery, but she begged me not to mention her. (I asked her several times if she was *sure* he invented EatBlue—not EatStreet, but EatBlue. She assured me she knew exactly what she was talking about.)

I left a few messages on Dave's cell phone, but he never called back.

Almost immediately after Zoomer had delivered my dinner in the middle of the afternoon, I received an email asking if I'd mind filling out a brief survey describing my experience. I had no trouble deciding which box to tick when it came to speed: "blistering speed" was a great description of how quickly my order had been executed.

Of course, in my case, it was the problem. And I wanted to tell them it was a problem so I had put it in the—that's right—comment box.

I glumly typed out a long comment: "well, EatStreet, the problem is, no one reads the comment box … I was going to bail on it if there was no place to say 'deliver later.' But a comment box was there. I used it to specify 'Please deliver at 6 pm.' Guess what?"

No one at EatStreet ever responded to any of my comments or questions. But ever since I ordered, I've heard constantly from EatStreet's marketing cyborg. "Super Deals for Tasty Meals" was one email subject line in late November, offering me a few bucks off on my next order. "Cold Feels Means Hot Deals" read one a week later, using the same rhyme scheme with a little less verve. The confusing syntax was a little creepy, making me wonder if it was computer generated and untouched by human eyeballs. Another was headlined, "Life Can Be Unpredictable but Dinner Shouldn't Be."

Would I use EatStreet again? I almost certainly would have if it hadn't sent me my dinner in the middle of the afternoon and been pathologically unresponsive to human entreaty. My EatStreet headline, anagrammed from their own odd lexicon, would read, "Unpredictable: Tasty Meals Can Be Hot but Dinner Feels Cold."

—Sally Mitani

table talk

Douglas Wang, CEO of **iDrink Products Inc.**, can't turn water into wine, but he can turn wine into champagne (though not Champagne, a protected designation of origin). For that matter, he can turn any liquid into a bubbly version of that liquid. The machine that performs these miracles is called the DrinkMate.

DrinkMate's more famous competitor in the make-your-own-bubbles business is SodaStream. Both use a skinny CO^2 cartridge to pump bubbles into a liter of liquid, but SodaStream can carbonate only water (after fizzing the water, you can optionally tip in a dose of flavored syrup). iDrink's patented "Fizz Infuser" adds a release valve that controls the pressure, allowing the safe fizzing of anything—fruit juice, coffee, wine, tea, cider.

In his office at iDrink's world headquarters on Jackson Rd., Wang fizzed a little Pure Leaf Sweet Tea and poured two side-by-side samples. The carbonated version immediately made regular tea taste lifeless and musty. He says his daughter loves to fizz cider. A customer in Seattle recently suggested coconut water as a substrate. "It gives that crunching feeling on the tongue," Wang says approvingly, having immediately tried it. He's not a fan of coconut water, but found that effervescing it made it at least palatable.

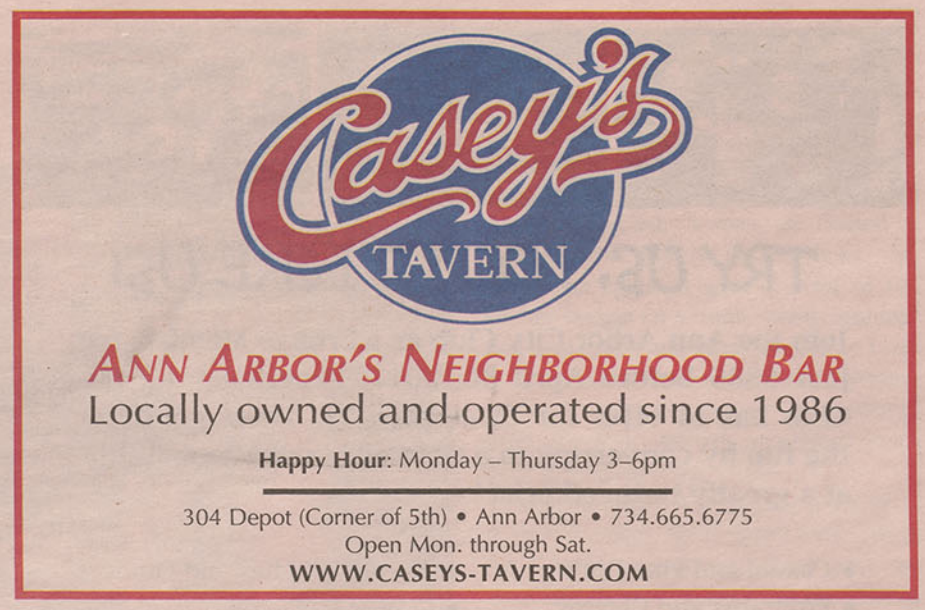
Wang, an engineer, came to Michigan to work in the auto industry. A few years ago, he bought a partnership in a friend's company in China called iSoda. iSoda had been limping along in the slipstream of SodaStream, making a similar water-fizzing product and selling a line of more sophisticated flavor add-ins (elder flower, pomegranate) for customers seeking something more artisanal than SodaStream's "Dr. Pete," "Fountain Mist," and other thinly disguised pop knockoffs. He's since gotten someone to invent the Fizz Infuser, bifurcated the company, and rebranded the American half of it as iDrink—all of these changes so recent that the company's sign on Jackson Rd. still reads "iSoda."

He also remains a partner in the Chinese iSoda, which is what the industry calls an OEM (original equipment manufacturer)—basically, a factory that produces whatever anyone commissions it to produce. It not only produces DrinkMate but manufactures similar products for its own competitors. (It doesn't manufacture the SodaStream, though Wang says that even most of SodaStream's components are produced in a Chinese factory. The Israeli-based SodaStream "puts in some bolts and nuts maybe, but the plastic case is made in China.")

By next year Wang hopes to have the DrinkMate in big-box stores. He couldn't put it into production fast enough to offer it for 2016 holiday sales, so it's on Amazon for the time being. Though orders from anywhere in the world are filled and shipped from the Jackson Rd. address—sometimes packed by Wang himself—DrinkMate's world headquarters doesn't have a retail department.

Just down the road, Adventures in Homebrewing fills that niche. "It was accidental," says Wang. "They hosted a party, and because we're neighbors I went over there." Adventures' owner Tyler Barber was intrigued when he heard what Wang's company was making and bought one. Since then, he's offered them on his own website and in his salesroom, where you can pick one up for about $120.

—Sally Mitani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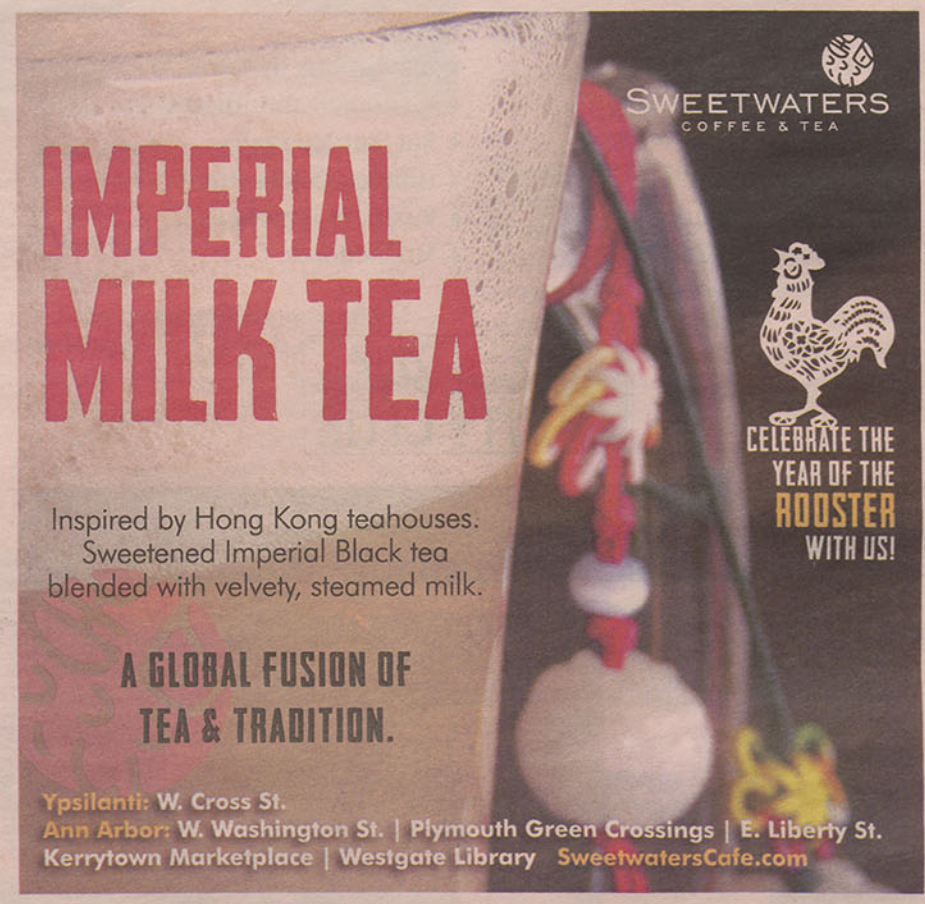

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Marketplace Changes

Vedge Café

Amanda Ratke makes her own seitan.

Amanda Ratke is the calm, slightly shy presence behind the **Vedge Café,** a new vegetarian/vegan restaurant that is, like its name, simple and commonsensical.

Trained as an accountant, the thirty-seven-year-old first-time restaurant owner says, "My heart wasn't in accounting anymore." Was it ever? "Well, maybe not," she smiles, but it was a practical career choice, and she was good at it. Always a cook, she and her husband and co-owner, Danny, had been talking about opening a restaurant for ten years. (He often works a weekend shift at Vedge, though he has a full-time job in IT in Plymouth at Humanetics, maker of the world's finest crash-test dummies.)

Ratke went back to school at EMU and got her B.S. in dietetics. "The EMU program focuses on entrepreneurship, and in one of my classes we had to write a business plan," she says—and that's pretty much the one she's using at Vedge Café.

Crisp, clean, and appetizing, painted in shades of celery, persimmon, black, and white, Vedge Café is, like its owner, almost entirely vegan. Cheese is where Ratke's resolve weakens a little. At the moment, the fresh mozzarella panini is the only non-vegan item on the menu, but more may come. She can't break the cheese habit at her Salem Township home either, where she grows a lot of her favorite herb, basil: "I haven't veganized my [Parmesan-laden] pesto yet."

A lot of Ratke's menu relies on seitan, which she makes herself from "vital wheat gluten," a flour made from the chewy, muscular part of the wheat berry. Making seitan is "similar to making bread," though it has no yeast. She combines the flour with "herbs, spices, water, and a few other wet ingredients, then I cook it"—exactly how, she won't say—to make a meat loaf–like product that is thinly sliced to resemble deli meat. Her "sa'la'mee" stands in for salami, "feeb" for corned beef, and "turkee" and "toona" need no explanation.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

While Ratke became a vegetarian for "animal cruelty reasons," she says, her husband, Danny, was thinking heart health—he's "seen a pretty big decrease in his cholesterol numbers."

She's mainly geared for a lunch crowd, though she can offer a vegan muffin for a late breakfast and stretches her hours to cover a simple early supper. The casual menu has hot and cold sandwiches, soups, and deli-type salads.

"I became a vegetarian for animal cruelty reasons," she says, and Danny, "with a family history of heart disease, came to it for health reasons and has seen a pretty big decrease in his cholesterol numbers." But Ratke doesn't push dogma, either nutritional or political. She doesn't believe in calorie counts, and she doesn't preach. Main ingredients are listed, but not obsessively chronicled. Sweets are limited to those muffins, and she has no fryer. Instead, she opted to splurge a lot of her kitchen budget on a "high-speed combination convection and infrared oven so I can brown a panini in about a minute." (Home cooks, if you have to ask, you probably can't afford it. It's not a common item, even in restaurant kitchens.)

Shortly before Vedge Café opened in early November, her contractor was called for jury duty—and came back with the news that jurors get lunch on the county. Since Ratke's within sight of the courthouse, she's trying to figure out how to get Vedge Café on the justice menu. She's also done some minor tweaking of the menu, adding a Georgia Reuben (coleslaw instead of sauerkraut) to the already popular Irish vegan Reuben and swapping out wonton soup for Thai coconut. She's thinking of dropping coffee and tea altogether—people aren't ordering much of either, probably because Mighty Good is right down the street. "And people have been asking for more desserts, but I'm not much of a baker, so that poses a problem."

Though this isn't a restaurant review, reporters have to eat too, and Vedge Café's smoky corn chowder and a banana chocolate muffin could make a vegan out of anyone.

Vedge Café, 205 N. Main, 929–4485. Tues.–Fri. 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Closed Mon. vedgecafea2.com

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Lolë stands for Live Out Loud Everyday. Even store manager Alex has "no idea" where the umlaut came from.

Athleisure at Lolë

Arbor Hills doubles down on activewear.

"I'm a gym rat. I want to work in this type of store because I live in activewear," says Alex Reymann, manager of **Lolë** in Arbor Hills Shopping Center. Women's wardrobes in recent years have been redefined by this clothing category. "'Athleisure' is another name

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Marketplace Changes

for it." She laughs a little at the industry jargon, yet it is a real phenomenon: as women ditch their dresses, blouses, slacks, and sweaters for leggings, tunics, yoga pants, and fitted sweatshirts, city streets are looking more and more like B roll for a *Star Trek* episode.

Lolë stands for Live Out Loud Everyday. "I have no idea" where the umlaut came from, Reymann says. It seems to be a Nordic-like flourish bestowed, like the one in Häagen-Dazs, by a marketing department. In the semiotics of marketing, Scandinavian words suggest purity and sustainability. Lolë is a Montreal company formed in 2002. Mainly known for its comfortable, outdoorsy outerwear and more recently shifting into the "lifestyle" niche—another name for activewear/athleisure, Reymann laughs—the company promises sustainability with a "closed loop" product cycle.

Though comfortable and outdoorsy, Lolë-designed wear does not produce the blocky, androgynous silhouette favored by some outerwear companies. Instead, Lolë "is about small details in clothing to give it that feminine touch. Like really cute hardware on jackets, or where they put seaming." Lolë pants have "front-facing or rear-facing seams," she explains, which are more flattering than straight side seams.

Lolë stores carry mostly, but not exclusively, the Lolë brand—Sorel, also founded in Canada, is a no-brainer. Originally known for its utilitarian work boots, Sorel's now owned by Oregon sportswear giant Columbia and diving deep into women's fashion—including some very citified boots clearly designed more for a Montreal subway than mushing dogsleds.

Reymann nimbly answers the potentially uncomfortable question of how lululemon, just a few doors down, greeted the arrival of Lolë (it probably didn't lol). Lululemon also specializes in form-fitting yoga wear, and in fact is often credited with starting, or at least reviving the "athleisure" trend. She says diplomatically, and even credibly, that North Face also carries activewear as well as outerwear, and in fact all the women's clothing in Arbor Hills blends with Lolë products. (Reymann herself is wearing her favorite "wicked soft" Basilica leggings by Lolë with a Free People shirt from V2V.) "People love it. They know they can come [to Arbor Hills] and bang out that whole category of their wardrobe."

Reymann says that all Lolë stores are franchises; this store's franchisee, Christina Gaskins, also owns Lolës in Rochester and Royal Oak. Lolë encourages franchise owners to carry locally produced artisanal products, and Reymann says she is actively looking for more to supplement the Chelsea-made For Vera brand of scented candles and soaps.

Lolë is famous for an annual outdoor yoga event called the Lolë White Tour. Reymann and Gaskins are lining up the location for the Ann Arbor event ("maybe the Arb," says Reymann) in which participants, all wearing white, will do 108 yoga sun salutations on the longest day of the year. The event, she says, costs around $15, but participants will get a swag bag, including a yoga mat.

Lolë, 3070 Washtenaw (Arbor Hills Shopping Center), 864–4742. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. lolewomen.com

Briefly noted

Tropical Smoothie Café is the latest food option to hit the congested stretch of Washtenaw that runs from Huron Pkwy. to Arborland. The openings and closings here can often be read as reflections of mass cultural shifts, as once-literate Borders books gave way to the bargain-centric Five Below, fast food went organic at Elevation Burger, and the coming of the huge Indian grocery Patel Brothers confirmed that South Asians are a trending local demographic.

This Tropical Smoothie franchise, Ann Arbor's third, is owned by Ken Patton and Kathy Turetzky; it's the forty-fourth in Michigan, and Patton estimates there are around 500 in the country. Next door to Wheels in Motion, which owns the space and was using it for storage, it has the latest Tropical Smoothie bright airy design, with wood floors, a lot of shiny white, and windows across the entire front. Nothing at Tropical Smoothie is over $7. Smoothies for any diet are available (Patton's own fave is the Avocolada—avocado, coconut, pineapple, kale, spinach, and lime juice), but so is solid food: sandwiches on wraps, flat bread, and a few even with traditional bread, as well as some breakfast sandwiches.

Tropical Smoothie Café, 3400 Washtenaw, 418–2333. Mon.–Fri. 7 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.–9 p.m. tropicalsmoothie.com

In the works

Siris Brew BBQ and Cigars next to Vedge Café on the 200 block of North Main has had a long gestation but really will open this winter, promises Geoff Schwartz, marketing manager of Kosch Dining Solutions.

Siris—pronounced like "cirrus" clouds—is "the Mesopotamian goddess of beer," says Ian Gray, longtime friend and spokesperson for the Kouza family, who was there brokering the introduction to Kosch. The Kouzas have long owned the Main Street Party Store, but their growing investment in the block had also landed them with three restaurants, and over the summer they finally called in the cavalry, aka Kosch Dining Solutions.

Kosch is large, employing as many as 600 people depending on the season (many of its restaurants are in resort areas up north), but it's a family business. When the Kouzas saw an article about Kosch in *Crain's Detroit Business* over the summer, they liked what they read. The two family businesses quickly formed a partnership to get Siris open—and also to revamp and steer **Sabor Latino** and **The Heidelberg** back into the black.

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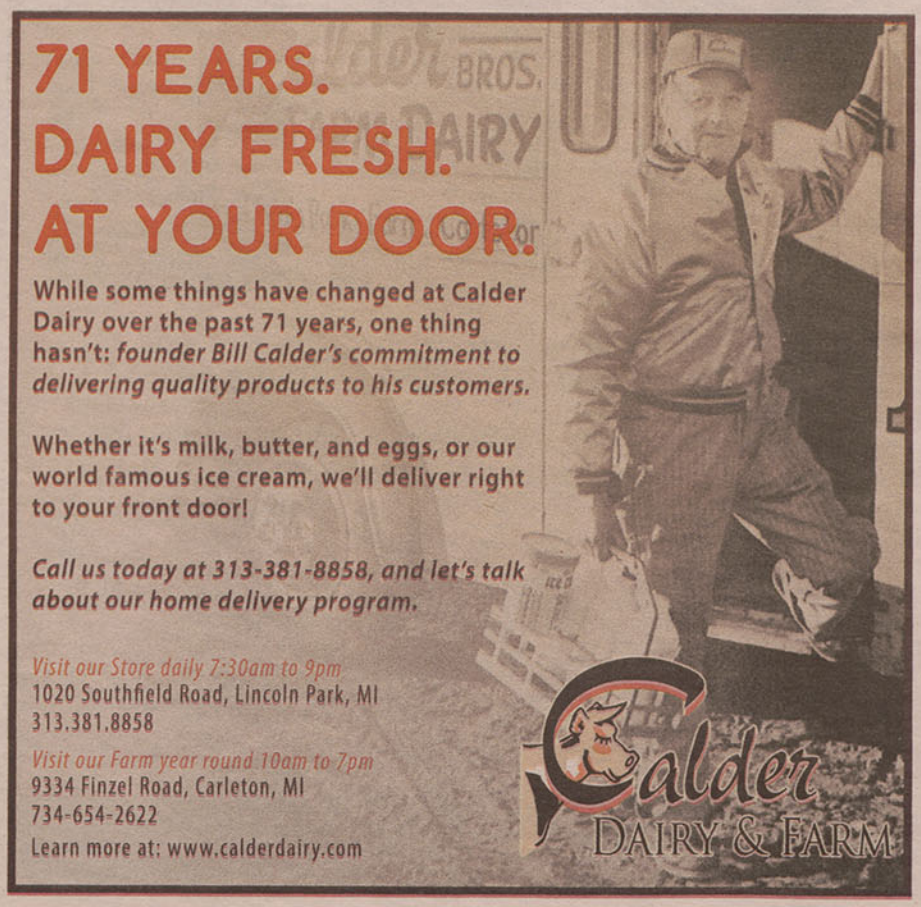

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Marketplace Changes

Even before Siris opens, Sabor Latino will become **Agave Tequila Bar**—sometime in January, says Jason Hilliard, Kosch's VP of sales and operations. The Kouzas quietly took ownership of Sabor in 2011 when they bought the building. Sabor's owner Marco Wong Baez wanted to close the restaurant, but the Kouzas wanted to keep it going and retained Marco for a year or so as a consultant to keep some continuity. ("I'd wondered why I'd only seen Anglos lately," said one regular customer drily.) At press time, Kosch didn't have a menu in place for the new iteration, but Hilliard emphasized that it would continue to be a full-service restaurant, open for lunch and dinner, though the tequila is obviously about to get a significant upgrade.

Siris will be the next on the docket, as soon as Agave is up and running. And finally, Schwartz says, the Heidelberg restaurant (on the main floor) will begin remodeling later this spring. "We're taking out partitions, putting in big long tables and benches, like an old German beer hall," as well as a new menu. The food will not be like old beer hall food—it will be "neue Deutsche," all the rage in Europe. Several restaurants in Germany now have three Michelin stars, and you don't get those for a plate of brats and spaetzle.

Closings

"I'll move into an office somewhere and continue to do interior design, lighting design, and custom-made invitations," says Nicki Wilson, whose **iT Boutique** made a brave move to Main St. a couple of years ago from Briarwood. But after January 31, she will no longer have a retail store. Exactly where she'll be moving her business was unsettled at press time. She says that while there's plenty of office space around Ann Arbor, there's very little available for small businesses. A Realtor recently "offered me one that was pretty reasonable, but said it had no bathroom. I said, 'You mean, a shared bathroom?' He said, 'No, but if you walk …' " and she quit listening.

She's closing iT—which sells a hodgepodge of home accessories, jewelry, and arts and crafts, some made by local artists, some manufactured goods, some on consignment, some not—for a couple of reasons. "My husband Frank is partly to blame; he wants to retire." But more seriously, "Foot traffic dwindles when you get down here," meaning the south side of the 300 block of S. Main. "Up by Shinola, *that* corner" things are buzzing, but fewer people make it all the way down to her historic red-brick house.

❧ ❧ ❧

Princess Designs in Kerrytown will close sometime in January: "the twenty-eighth at the latest, but at the rate we're selling now, it might be earlier," says owner Christy Jones.

A jeweler who likes to work in glass and chunky semiprecious stones, Jones was pointedly telling customers who bought gift certificates last summer that they should use them by the end of the year, and that should have been a tip-off. In October she announced her closing to her email customers.

Jones opened downstairs in Kerrytown in 1998 and moved to her upstairs corner spot in 2000. She's closing the store because of aging parents, and she'll be moving out of state to help them out. She'll continue to make jewelry and sell online. The best way to keep up with her is her Etsy site, etsy.com/shop/jaspersjewels.

❧ ❧ ❧

By February 1, Westgate Shopping Center will be minus **Avenue Plus.** Right after Thanksgiving it hung tempting "40% off" closeout signs in the windows, and most women who were drawn in by them seemed to be heading straight to the back, where Cloudwalkers shoes and boots were on sale—Avenue's own brand of extremely comfortable, affordably priced, yet stylish shoes.

"I'm looking for some shoes to wear to church," said Theresa Owens, who swears by the brand. She and her mother "saw the sale signs in the window" and know the store well. "We've been coming here over ten years." Unfortunately, the Cloudwalkers had already been pretty picked over by mid-December. Owens pointed out the kind she was after—dressy gray flats with wedge heels and a little flash of black patent trim—but none were available in her size. Her mother Mable Ann Bonds had found a pair of boots, though—knee-high black ones with a silver chain across the instep. She authorized a description of the boots but warned: "Don't put the size in there. I don't give away that information!"

The manager and assistant manager didn't know if they could speak to the media, so didn't offer any explanation for why the store was closing. But savvy shoppers Bonds and Owens shed some light on the Avenue's troubles.

"I buy a majority of my clothes here," said Owens, "but this year I didn't care for the styles. They made me feel old-fashioned." She flips through a 40-percent-off rack. "Now look at this. I have this top." She points to a rare piece from this year she did like: a simple sleeveless white tunic with a chunky zipper down the front, tagged at a "regular" price of $50. Did she pay $50 for it when she bought it earlier this year? "I did not. I bought it on a buy-one-get-one-free coupon," less per item than its current "closeout" price. She also remembers that last winter she bought two pairs of Cloudwalkers boots, regularly around $80 a pair, for $20 a pair. It seems that customers have come to expect deep discounts at the Avenue, and Owens isn't the only one unimpressed with meager discounts for clothes they find unattractive. By mid December, even the Avenue website was advertising "50/60/70% off." ■

Got a retail or restaurant change? Email sallymitani@gmail.com or leave voicemail at 769–3175 x 309.

The Zingerman's Times

©2017 DSE Inc. January 2017 Printed in Ann Arbor Land of a thousand flavors

Bread of the Month
Zingerman's Bakehouse

rustic italian round

One of Zingerman's Bakehouse's best selling breads for its versatility. It has a beautiful white crumb and a golden brown crust. This is that great, simple, white European loaf. Our resident foodies recommend pairing with some sweet butter.

Roaster's Pick Coffee
Zingerman's Coffee Company

uganda-rwenzori mountains

The Bakonzo tribe grows their coffee under the shade of banana trees along with cassava, maize, beans, and groundnuts to diversify income. The average smallholder farmer works about two acres of land and processing/quality control is tightly regulated. Ripe cherries are hand picked and the beans are washed using hand pulpers. Our coffee experts liked this coffee for its smooth, cocoa-like body and lovely balance.

Cheese of the Month
Zingerman's Creamery

bridgewater

Our cheese experts have determined the Bridgewater to be one of Zingerman's Creamery's most robust cheeses. Made from fresh local cow's milk, this luscious, creamy, soft-ripened ball is spiked with cracked and whole black Tellicherry peppercorns, giving the finished cheese a full-flavored peppery zing that perfectly complements the slight citrus and gentle mushroom notes of the paste. Perfect with blueberry jam, and a nice crisp Michigan hard cider!

Zingerman's Delicatessen	422 Detroit St. 734.663.3354
Zingerman's Roadhouse	2501 Jackson Rd. 734.663.FOOD
Miss Kim	415 N. Fifth Street misskimannarbor.com
Zingerman's Cornman Farms	8540 Island Lake Rd. Dexter 734.619.8100
Zingerman's Catering and Events	422 Detroit St. 734.663.3400
Greyline	100 N. Ashley St. 734.230.2300
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.761.2095
Zingerman's mail order	610 Phoenix Dr. 888.636.8162
Zing Train	3728 Plaza Dr. 734.930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.6060
Zingerman's Candy Manufactory	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.761.2095

www.Zingermans.com

it's cold out there!

zingerman's is here to keep you warm!

After days of bitter cold, experts tell the *Times* that the best way to warm up is with gourmet grilled cheese from the Bakehouse! These tasty sandwiches are made with classic aged cheddar on sourdough bread–you can even add fresh tomato and honey mustard. Add Creamy Tomato de-Vine or Chicken Noodle soup to up the cozy quotient! These treats are available every Wednesday after 11AM. For a full lunch menu at Zingerman's Bakehouse visit zcob.me/bhlunch.

Another expert-espoused way to ensure warmth during these cold winter months is not to get out in it in the first place! Drive up to the Roadshow and your really good American food will be carried out to you. You don't even have to get out of the car! Check out the Roadshow's Menu here: zcob.me/roadshowmenu.

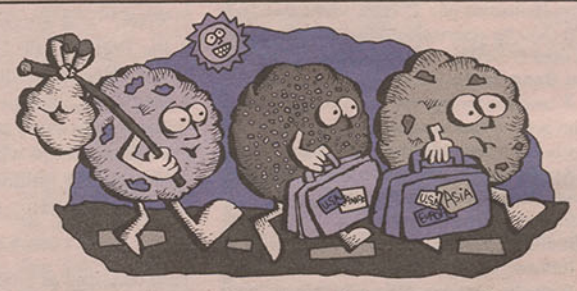
One final way Zingerman's is helping to keep food lovers toasty is with Deli Delivery! Guests can order hot sandwiches, pot pies, soups and sides, hand-sliced meats and cheeses, fine olive oils, tinned fish, breads and pastries–or anything else you might need while you curl up at home or with your contraband office space heater. Check out the Deli's offerings at zingermansdeli.com and order by calling 734-663-3354.

12th annual african american foodways special dinner #204

A Fundraiser for the Music Maker Relief Foundation

Zingerman's Roadhouse will present a soulful event on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:30pm in support of the Music Makers Relief Foundation. The African American Foodways Special Dinner will feature special guest Dom Flemons from the Carolina Chocolate Drops, who has helped Executive Chef Alex Young to compose an unforgettable evening. Make your reservation today to savor mouthwatering Southern food while listening to music that is expressive of American roots.

Make your reservations now!
Call 734.663.FOOD
or go to events.zingermanscommunity.com



times readers top 2017 resolution: tackle that bucket list

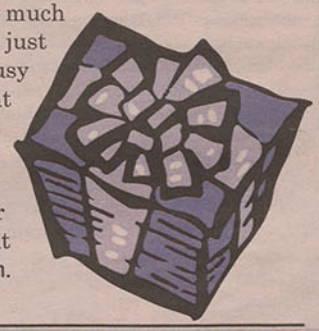
Times readers say crossing a couple things off their bucket list in 2017 is a top priority. Popular desires included traveling the world, seeing international landmarks, and learning a new skill or a another language. *Times* reporters have uncovered that Zingerman's can help. Zingerman's Community of Businesses offer classes in bread making, cake decorating, mixology, crafting artful espresso drinks, and more. And for those ready to see world renowned sights, experience other cultures first hand and taste unforgettable local food, Zingerman's Food Tours is hosting trips to Hungary, Spain and Italy in 2017. Space is limited. Find out more at events.zingermanscommunity.com and zingermansfoodtours.com.

miss kim expands hours to include lunch service

The *Times* is eager to report that Miss Kim, Zingerman's newest business, will be expanding their service hours to include lunch starting this month! This new venture opened to rave reviews and owner, Ji Hye Kim, looks forward to welcoming hungry guests and serving her delicious Korean Cuisine for lunch. To be notified of the exact date of this change, sign up to receive Miss Kim's e-newsletter! zcob.me/mkenews.

the holidays are over but zingerman's mail order is more ready than ever!

If you've vowed to keep the Holiday Spirit all year round, Zingerman's Mail Order has just the treat to remind all the important people in your life how much they mean to you. Or maybe you just need to 'treat yo self' after a busy holiday season. Sources say that while Zingerman's Mail Order had it's biggest holiday season ever, they are more than ready to help you find the perfect gift for that special someone, even if that special person is you. zingermans.com.



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Follow us on Twitter and Instagram for daily missives from The Land of Zing.
If you're looking for some in-depth long reads, check out our blog at: zingermanscommunity.com

Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

Ann Arbor Distilling Co.

220 Felch **882–2169**

A performance space adjacent to the bar in this boutique distillery features occasional live music. Occasional cover, dancing. January schedule TBA.

The Ark

316 S. Main **761–1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional and roots music and contemporary songwriting. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. **Jan. 6: "20th Annual Crossroads Ceili."** An evening of Celtic music, song, and dance featuring **Mick Gavin & Family,** a veteran Detroit Irish music ensemble led by fiddler (and County Clare native) Gavin, along with Milwaukee-based multi-instrumental virtuoso **Randy Gosa,** a founding member of the Celtic trio Cé, whose musicianship has been praised as "driving, percussive, lyrical, gentle, dominant by turns." Also, dancers from the Detroit-area Heinzman and O'Hare schools of Irish dance. $20 ($30 by reservation only includes dinner entrée at Conor O'Neill's). 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 6: The Yellow Room Gang.** In-the-round performances by this group of 8 award-winning veteran Michigan songwriters who get together regularly to share their new work. Members are **David Barrett, Jim Bizer, Annie Capps, Kitty Donohoe, Jan Krist, Matt Watroba,** and **Michael Hough** & **David Tamulevich** of the local duo Mustard's Retreat. The Yellow Room Gang released the 2015 compilation CD *Decade* in celebration of its 10th anniversary. $20. **Jan. 8: Nathan Bell.** Veteran Nashville country-folk singer-songwriter known for his fresh, literate takes on a wide assortment of subjects from love, families, and war to muscle cars and factory towns. "Nathan writes from the perspective of the working man better than anyone I've ever encountered—and he does so with songs that speak with pure truth, without the swagger that too many artists attempt to pass off as blue-collar authenticity," says *No Depression* critic Larry Looney in his review of Bell's new CD, *Blood Like a River.* $15. **Jan. 10: Bill Bynum & Co.** Bluegrass-based quartet led by award-winning Downriver singer-songwriter and guitarist Bynum, whose songs also draw on old-time, early country, gospel, and contemporary folk music. His band includes fiddler Hessie Mae Hasheian, banjoist Drake Lolley, and bassist Scott Kendall. $15. **Jan. 11: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **Jan. 12: The Sweet Water Warblers.** A trio of young Michigan singer-songwriters—**May Erlewine, Rachael Davis,** and **Lindsay Lou Rilko** perform their songs alone and together. Erlewine is a big-voiced singer-songwriter from Big Rapids who writes thoughtful, richly emotional country-flavored songs, Davis is a velvet-voiced Cadillac native whose influences range from Ella Fitzgerald to Patty Griffin, and Rilko is the frontwoman of the acclaimed Lansing swing-flavored bluegrass band Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys. $20. **Jan. 13: Kiana June Weber.** Original acoustic music that fuses Celtic, rock, bluegrass, and jazz influences by this young Celtic fiddler, a Chelsea native who got her start in high school with the Chelsea House Orchestra. She was recruited by the renowned Calgary worldbeat fiddle ensemble Barrage at age 19, and in 2014 she joined the Celtic fusion jam band Gaelic Storm. She's joined tonight by Martin (her husband) and David Howley of the Irish band We Banjo 3. $15. **Jan. 14: Jill Jack.** *See review, above.* Sultry-voiced Detroit folk-rock singer-songwriter whose intimate, emotionally charged songs also draw freely on jazz and country flavors. Her 2005 CD *Moon and the Morning After* won a Detroit Music Award for Outstanding Folk Recording. She appears tonight with her band for her annual birthday show. $20. **Jan. 15: The Hot Club of Cowtown.** An eclectic mix of 1920s jazz standards, western swing tunes, cowboy songs, fiddle tunes, originals, and offbeat covers by this recently reunited Austin-based trio whose sound has been described as a blend of Bob Wills and Django Reinhardt. The band—guitarist Whit Smith, violinist Elana James, and upright bassist Jake Erwin—recently released *Rendezvous in Rhythm,* a collection of its sparkling spins on standards in the style of legendary hot jazz titans Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli, and its new CD, *Midnight on the Trail,* is a collection of classic cowboy songs. $25. **Jan. 16: Dom Flemons.** *See review, p. 67.* Old-time music in the wide array of styles, from blues and hokum to pop characteristic of prewar songsters by this founding member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, an infectiously engaging vocalist and multi-instrumentalist who has also written a number of songs in old-time styles. He has a widely acclaimed CD, *Prospect Hill.* $15. **Jan. 17: Ken Yates.** Highly regarded young Ontario singer-songwriter whose work has been praised by John Mayer. *No Depression* reviewer J Williamson praises his new CD, *Huntsville,* for its "emotionally charged storytelling, and top-notch guitar chops." FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Jan. 18: The Alash Ensemble.** This male vocal trio from the tiny Central Asian Russian republic of Tuva performs traditional throat singing, also known as overtone singing. Each singer is able to produce 2 or 3 different notes simultaneously, creating an eerie, otherworldly, often startlingly nonhuman sound that is also ravishingly musical. $20. **Jan. 19: Red Tail Ring.** Kalamazoo duo of singer-songwriters Michael Beauchamp and Laurel Premo, who perform Appalachian folk and old-time music with haunting vocal harmonies, along with originals in the same vein. Opening act is **Misty Lyn & the Big Beautiful,** a local country-inflected folk-rock quintet led by singer-songwriter Misty Lyn. $15. **Jan. 20: The RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared at numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed,* a 1994 Ark performance. $11 at the door only. **Jan. 21: Sideline.** Bluegrass quintet composed of veteran North Carolina–based session musicians and sidemen who came together to make music rooted in the progressive styles of the 1980s & 1990s. $20. **Jan. 22: Sara Watkins.** Singer-songwriter and fiddler best known as a member of the popular young San Diego bluegrass trio Nickel Creek. *Uncut* reviewer Bud Scoppa praises her recently released 3rd solo CD, *Young in All the Wrong Ways,* for its bold blend of the "sort of wounded assertiveness [that] enlivens Lucinda Williams' writing and singing" with Linda Ronstadt's "dynamic pairings of ambling country-rock verses and rip-roaring pop choruses." Opening act is **Liz Longley,** a Nashville-based pop-folk singer-songwriter whose intimately personal, emotionally engaging, well-crafted songs reflect the influences of Joni Mitchell and Patty Griffin. $25.

Aut Bar

315 Braun Ct. **994–3677.**

This local tavern features live music Tues., 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Jesse Kramer Trio.** Jazz trio led by drummer Kramer.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214–9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 28: "Battle of the Bands 2017."** Local teen bands in all genres compete in this 3-round event judged by a panel of music industry professionals, representatives from the Neutral Zone's Youth-Oriented Records label, and a noise meter in the crowd.

Babs' Underground

213 S. Ashley **997–0800**

This downtown lounge features live music Wed., 11 p.m.–2 a.m. DJ on Thurs., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Dave Menzo.** This local singer-songwriter uses guitar, bass, synths, and other electronics to improvise instrumental tracks on the spot to sing with. His new CD, *Shhh,* is a collection of cinematic soundscapes created entirely with acoustic, electric, and electronic instruments from the Ann Arbor District Library Music Tools collection.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local club features live music most Wed.–Sat. and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **Jan. 4:** TBA. **Jan. 5:** TBA. **Jan. 6: Golf Clap.** Detroit house music DJ duo. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **Jan. 7: Luxotica Lounge Cabaret.** Nationally touring burlesque show that blends striptease, circus sideshow acts, and live cabaret music. **Jan. 11:** TBA. **Jan. 12:** TBA. **Jan. 13: The Macpodz.** Immensely popular veteran local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening act is **Jive Colossus,** a local 9-piece ensemble with a killer horn section fronted by vocalist Shelly Catalan that plays Afro-Caribbean, funk, rock, and blues dance music. **Jan. 14:** TBA. **Jan. 18:** TBA. **Jan. 19: Clear Soul Forces.** Detroit hip-hop/soul MC. Opening acts are the Detroit hip-hop MC **Munch,** local hip-hop MCs **Obie Iyha** and **DaG. Jan. 20:** TBA. **Jan. 21: Nomo.** Nationally acclaimed local rock-based sextet whose music blends elements of Afrobeat, world music, electronica, and Sun Ra– and Coltrane-influenced jazz. Advance tickets: $12. **Jan. 25:** TBA. **Jan. 26:** TBA. **Jan. 27:** TBA. **Jan. 28: Hiss Golden Messenger.** Durham (NC) Americana folk-rock band led by singer-songwriter M.C. Taylor. *The Guardian* critic Ally Carnwath calls the band's new CD, *Heart Like a Levee,* a "collection of warm and rootsy songs [that] brim with personality and feeling." Advance tickets: $15.

The Blue Nile

221 E. Washington **998–4746**

This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin and other friends TBA.

Bona Sera

200 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti **340–6335**

This Ypsilanti restaurant features occasional live music in its underground lounge, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, cover. **Jan. 6:** TBA. **Jan. 13: "Friends with Benefits Dance Party."** Dance party with 90s music spun by a DJ. A benefit for the Neutral Zone. **Jan. 21: Guilty Pleasures Burlesque.** Local burlesque and comedy troupe. Followed by dance music with DJ Selina Style. Age 21 & older. 9 p.m.

Café Verde

214 N. Fourth Ave. **994–9174**

This café in the People's Food Co-op features acoustic musicians and duos, Thurs. 6–8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. January schedule TBA.

singer-songwriter

Jill Jack

A lively party

Jill Jack will be hosting her sixth annual birthday party at the Ark on Saturday, January 14. A mainstay of the Michigan folk-rock scene, the singer-songwriter released her first recording in 1997, has added ten more since then, and, along the way, has picked up thirty-eight Detroit Music Awards. A musician with no interest in pigeonholing herself into one, or even a few, genres, she writes songs and sings covers in folk, blues, soul, rock, and country, and her latest album is yet another departure—jazz standards from the Great American Songbook.

Jack's a flexible singer with the kind of versatile, clear-to-smoky voice that can make itself at home in all of those styles. She'll remind you of Janis Joplin on one song, Joan Baez on the next, and Billie Holiday on the one after that. She can belt out the gospel standard "Oh Happy Day," croon "Moon River," and almost whisper the lullaby "All the Pretty Little Horses" with equal conviction. Her five-piece backing band is equally proficient, capable of providing just the right support on every song.

But perhaps what endears her so to her loyal fans (her birthday bash is always a crowded, lively party) is what she says between songs. She seems to make little distinction between how she talks to her audience and how she might talk with close friends. Her patter is filled with autobiographical, confessional tidbits—hilarious, poignant, earthy, and sometimes all of those at the same time. She tells how she used to listen to Dave Edwards of the legendary Detroit rock band The Look when she was a teenager and then met him again when she herself was already performing. "He remembered my sister—she had bigger boobs." The laughter is still going when she adds, "This is like therapy. How much do I owe you?"

MICHAEL HACALA

Of course there has to be cake at a birthday party. In the Ark's lobby at last year's there was an enormous chocolate cake in the shape of a guitar, with frosting outlining the strings, tuning pegs, bridge, and sound hole. During intermission and after the show, everyone in the full house got to enjoy a piece.

—Sandor Slomovits

The Cavern Club
210 S. First St. 913–8890

This downtown basement club in the Celebration Cellars banquet space features occasional live music, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. There is also sometimes music in the street-level Millennium Club and Gotham City and the 2nd-floor Circus Bar & Billiards. Also, karaoke in the Circus, Wed.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Occasional cover, dancing. **Jan. 14 & 21: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club.

Chelsea Alehouse Brewery
420 N. Main, suite 100
Chelsea 475–2337

This brewpub features live music Sun. 2–4 p.m. & 6–8 p.m., Wed. 8–10 p.m., and Fri. 9–11 p.m. $5 suggested donation, no dancing. All ages admitted. **1st & 3rd Sun.: Celtic Jam Session.** All musicians invited to join a biweekly jam session. 2–4 p.m. **Every 2nd Sun.: "Songwriters Circle."** All invited to drop in to play their work or just listen. Hosted by veteran singer-songwriter Annie Capps. 2–5 p.m. **Every Sun.: The Wes Fritzemeier Jazz Experience.** With the Chelsea ensemble of pianist Brian Brill, bassist Jed Fritzemeier, and drummer Wes Fritzemeier. 6–8 p.m. **Every 2nd Tues.: Open Mike.** All musicians and other performers invited. 8 p.m. **Every Wed.: Thunderwüde.** Bluegrass and related roots music by the Chelsea trio of guitarists Jason Dennie and George Merkel and multi-instrumentalist Wes Fritzemeier. **Jan. 29: Cross-Bow.** Traditional jigs and reels, with folk and world music–oriented covers, by this 10-piece Celtic music ensemble from Allendale. 2–4 p.m.

The Club Above
215 N. Main 686–4012

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music Tues., Fri., Sat., and occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors at 9 p.m.). Also, DJs occasional Wed. & Thurs. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, cover. Age 21 & older admitted (except as noted). **Every Tues.: "College Night."** DJs play Top 40 & electronic dance music records. **Jan. 3: Rescue Dawn.** Buffalo emo-oriented pop-punk band. Opening act TBA. **Jan. 5: My Girlfriend Beru.** Edgily melodic guitar-based rock by this local quartet. Opening acts are the Brighton indie rock quintet **Parkway & Columbia,** the local emo-rock quartet **Seaholm,** and **Texas Beachball Massacre,** a Livingston County postpunk instrumental surf band. **Jan. 7: "Techno & House."** With **BMG,** a member of Ectomorph who DJs electronica music from a laptop, along with **Matilda** and other DJs TBA. **Jan. 13: Chirp.** Local jazz-inflected progressive funk-rock quartet. Opening act TBA. **Jan. 14: "Dancehall & Reggae Night."** With Ann Arbor Reggae DJs. **Jan. 20:** Indie rock bands TBA. **Jan. 21: EDM & Future Bass Music.** With DJs TBA. **Jan. 27:** Indie rock bands TBA. **Jan. 28: Planet D.** Ypsilanti rock cover band. 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 28: "Bassover-Takeover."** Bass-heavy dance music with guest DJs TBA.

Common Cup
1511 Washtenaw 327–6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment on occasional Fri. No cover (except as noted), no dancing. January music schedule TBA.

Conor O'Neill's
318 S. Main 665–2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Thurs.–Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Jan. 5: Adam Labeaux.** An eclectic mix of jazz, folk, soul, funk, and rock originals by this local singer-songwriter, a former Ragbirds guitarist. **Jan. 7: Rootstand.** Local band whose music blends bluegrass, blues, reggae, and Celtic folk idioms and instrumentation. **Jan. 12: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Jan. 14: Damien McCarthy.** Traditional Irish music by this singer-guitarist from Ireland. **Jan. 19: Reeds 'n' Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and guitarist David Roof. **Jan. 21: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **Jan. 26: Bob Skon.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Jan. 28: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room
114 S. Main 665–9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 6: Bobby Pennock.** Plymouth folk-rock singer-songwriter whose style draws its influences from Paul Simon and Harry Chapin, with a helping of the Beatles thrown in for zest. **Jan. 7: San, Emily, & Jacob.** Multi-instrumentalist San Slomovits (best known as half of the popular family-friendly duo Gemini) and his violinist daughter, Emily Slomovits, are joined by bassist Jacob Warren to perform a wide range of traditional and contemporary acoustic folk, jazz, and classical music, including material from their CD, *Innocent When You Dream.* **Jan. 13: Richard Smerin.** Performance by this singer-songwriter, a native of London, England, currently living in Oakland County, who writes Chicago blues-based songs, accompanying himself on acoustic guitar that he plays in the "folk baroque" fingerpicking style of Bert Jansch. **Jan. 14: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Jan. 20: George Heritier.** Oak Park acoustic Americana singer-songwriter who specializes in songs about living in Michigan. He has a recent CD, *In My Element.* **Jan. 21: Stuart Benbow.** Acoustic pop-folk originals and covers by this veteran local singer-songwriter and guitarist who grew up in Ontario. **Jan. 27: Bob Skon Trio.** See Session Room. **Jan. 28: The Waynewood Boys.** Detroit bluegrass quartet whose repertoire of traditional tunes by the likes of Jimmie Rodgers, Bill Monroe, & the Stanley Brothers, along with originals in traditional styles. With banjoist Hugh Fader, guitarist Tom Megli, fiddler and mandolinist Mike Francis, and bassist Keith Buchanan.

Crossroads
517 W. Cross, Ypsilanti 340–5597

This bar & grill near EMU features live music Tues., Fri., & Sat. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke Thurs. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Tues.: "Showcase Tuesday."** With up-and-coming local bands TBA. **Every Fri. & Sat.:** Live bands TBA.

Dreamland Theater
26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti 657–2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music. Cover (usually a donation), dancing. January schedule TBA.

The Earle
121 W. Washington 994–0211

Restaurant with live jazz Tues.–Thurs. 7–9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Keaton Royer.** Solo jazz pianist. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo jazz guitarist. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble, named after the late jazz pianist and Earle cofounder Burgess, featuring pianist Gil Scott Chapman, bassist Russell Tessier, and drummer Robert Warren.

The Elks Lodge
220 Sunset 761–7172

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Fri. & Sat. 6–10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Jan. 19: Hip-Hop Open Mike.** All hip-hop artists invited.

Guy Hollerin's
3600 Plymouth Rd. 769–9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. (except holiday weekends), 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 7: RJ's Kansas City Six.** Swing band led by veteran drummer RJ Spangler that specializes in the Kansas City–centered early postwar blues of the great shouters like Big Joe Turner, Eddie Rushing, Cleanhead Vinson, and Wynonie Harris. With vocalist Dan Devins, the young guitar prodigy Alicia Marie Venchuk, bassist Gwen MacPhee, trumpeter James O'Donnell, and baritone saxophonist Goode Wyche III. **Jan. 14: The Switchbacks.** Local hard-rocking country and blues quintet fronted by vocalist Janet Benson. **Jan. 21: Flying Latini Brothers.** Reunion of this veteran local band fronted by singer-songwriter John Latini that plays country-flavored rock, along with some Tom Waits songs and other offbeat covers. **Jan. 28: Downriver Dan.** Fiery blues-rock by this trio led by by Allen Park singer-songwriter and guitarist Dan Kalicki.

The Habitat Lounge
3050 Jackson Rd. 665–3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs. 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m., along with jazz Sun. 8:30–10 p.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.** (except Jan. 22)**: The Weber's Jazz Collective.** Jazz originals and standards by different piano-based trios and quartets each show. **Every Tues.: Dave Menzo.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter who recently released the CD *Color Wheel.* **Jan. 5: Slice.** Veteran East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Jan. 6: Starfarm.** 80s covers by this East Lansing retro rock and pop quintet. **Jan. 7: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Jan. 11: Cetan Clawson.** Monroe psychedelic blues-rock trio. **Jan. 12: Wych Elm.** Local string sextet that plays a stylishly pungent, soul-infused mix of folk, rock, jazz, and old-time music. **Jan. 13 & 14: Collision 6.** Detroit rock quintet that plays originals and 80s and 90s covers. **Jan. 18 & 19: Slice.** See above. **Jan. 20 & 21: Remedy.** Detroit pop dance band. **Jan. 22: Alexander Zonjic.** Ensemble led by this veteran Detroit pop-jazz flutist. Table reservations available. 7::30 & 9 p.m. **Jan. 25: Cetan Clawson.** See above. **Jan. 26: Wych Elm.** See above. **Jan. 27: 50 Amp Fuse.** Popular Detroit 70s and 80s classic rock band. **Jan. 28: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing.

LIVE
102 S. First St. 623–1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour (late Aug.–May), 6:30–9 p.m., and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **Jan. 6: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Yardbirds, the Byrds, and Dylan to priceless obscurities like Love's "Alone Again Or" and the Foundations' 1968 hit "Build Me Up Buttercup." 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 13: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.**

The Sweet Water Warblers come to the Ark Jan. 12.

Ann Arbor's Original and Only All Comedy Nightclub Since 1984

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase

212 SOUTH 4TH AVENUE

MIKE STANLEY
JANUARY 5 6 7

"Last Comic Still Standing"
"Michigan's Up and Comers"
Canadian Mist Whiskey Competition

KRISTIN KEY
JANUARY 12 13 14

"Comics Unleashed"
VH-1's "100 Greatest"
VH-1 "Road Comics: Big Work on Small Stages"
"Ladies Night Out"
VH-1 "Big in 06 Awards"
"Acme Hollywood Dream Role"
"The Bob & Tom Show"

BATTLE OF THE SEXES
JANUARY 18

2 male comedians vs 2 female comedians.
That's the premise.
Hosted by Meldon Williams, it's no holds barred comedy as we present the
Battle of the Sexes Comedy Showdown.

BEN CREED
JANUARY 19 20 21

"Showtime Comedy Club Network"
"Niteshift" "Comedy Tonight"
"Comic Strip Live"
"Comedy on the Road"
MTV's "Half Hour Comedy Hour"
"Billy Gardell Presents Road Dogs"

MICHAEL E. WINFIELD
JANUARY 26 27 28

"Last Comic Standing"
"Late Show with David Letterman"
"Live at Gotham"
"Comics Without Borders"
Comedy.TV - MTV's "Acting Out"
TruTV's "Greatest Ever"
"Watching the Wilson's"
"The Bobby Lee Project"
Fuse TV's "Off Beat" - "The Straight Out Report"

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Music at Nightspots

Veteran local country band, led by singer-guitarist Smith, whose repertoire includes classic country, western swing, and boogie-woogie. 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 20: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Popular local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style blends elements of Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. The band's latest CD is *Big Sexee*. 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 27: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist Tyler Stipe, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King.

Mash

211 E. Washington **222–4095**

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight and Thurs.–Sat. & occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Weekend happy hour music, 6–9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Jan. 4: Adam Labeaux.** See Conor O'Neill's. **Jan. 5: Barelyon.** Soulful pop-rock by this Detroit duo. **Jan. 6: Mike Vial.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 6: Joel Rydecki Band.** Flint neo-soul funk band fronted by singer-songwriter Rydecki. **Jan. 7: Matt Boylan.** Covers and originals by this local pop-folk singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 7: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** An intense fusion of funk, soul, and blues by this Detroit quintet fronted by vocalist Rain. **Jan. 11: Barelyon.** See above. **Jan. 12: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. **Jan. 13: Syd Burnham.** Blues-oriented folk-rock singer-songwriter from Brighton. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 13: The Hi-Views.** Detroit rockabilly and roots music trio. **Jan. 14: Dan Orcutt.** See Old Town. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 14: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **Jan. 18: Jay Fry.** Local singer-guitarist who plays rock 'n' roll, blues, and folk covers and originals. **Jan. 19: Ari Teitel Band.** Detroit Americana rock ensemble led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Teitel, whose music draws on soul, funk, blues, and gospel influences. **Jan. 20: Athens Creek.** Southeast Michigan acoustic country-flavored folk-rock trio. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 20: The Rhythm Machines.** A mix of classic rock, soul, funk, R&B, and jazz fusion by this veteran Detroit-area quartet whose repertoire includes interpretive covers of everyone from Jimi Hendrix and Stanley Clarke to James Brown and Curtis Mayfield. With guitarists Julius O'Steen and Terry Gordinier, bassist Ben Piner, and drummer John Marion. **Jan. 21: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 21: Chris Canas Band.** Detroit blues band fronted by blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **Jan. 25: Barelyon.** See above. **Jan. 26: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Jan. 27: Rick Straub.** Acoustic covers of singer-songwriter pop-folk and folk-rock by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 27: Harper & the Midwest Kind.** Blues-rock band led by Peter Harper, a blues singer-songwriter from Australia, now transplanted to Grass Lake, who plays blues harp and didgeridoo. The band has an acclaimed CD on the Blind Pig label, *Down to the Rhythm*. **Jan. 28: Reeds & Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and guitarist David Roof. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 28: Sonic Freeway.** Versatile Detroit-area 6-piece dance band whose repertoire includes Motown and classic and country-rock.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional Friday happy hour bands (no cover) in the Red Room, 6–8:30 p.m., and occasional other live shows. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 20: Hullabaloo.** Veteran local 9-piece collective whose upbeat, energetic music draws on ska, jazz, funk, punk, and Latin influences. 6–8:30 p.m.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun., Wed., & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Jan. 1: Chris Buhalis.** This local singer-songwriter performs his 20th annual tribute to Hank Williams and Townes Van Zandt to mark the anniversary of their deaths. He's accompanied by dobro player Dave Keeney and mandolinist Jason Dennie. 5 p.m. until he's done. **Jan. 4: Will McEvoy Quartet.** Local avant-jazz quartet led by bassist McEvoy, who recently relocated to Ann Arbor from NYC. **Jan. 8: Dan Orcutt.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-songwriter. **Jan. 11: Treetown Swingtette.** Local ensemble that plays a wide range of swing music, from Cole Porter to Django Reinhardt. Members are fiddler Paul Winder, vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, and singer-guitarist Myron Grant, who also plays harp and bones. **Jan. 15: Midwest Territory Band.** Local acoustic trio led by blues-oriented vocalist and guitar virtuoso Rollie Tussing. With bassist Serge Van der Voo and percussionist Jim Carey. **Jan. 18: Dave Sharp Worlds Quartet.** World music-based jazz by this ensemble led by local bassist Sharp. With oud player Igor Houwat and violinist Henrik Karapetyan. **Jan. 22: Jen Sygit.** Lansing singer-songwriter and guitarist known for her bluesy lyrics, down-home music, and sultry vocals. **Jan. 25: Ron English Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit guitarist English. **Jan. 29: Bill Edwards.** Veteran local country singer-songwriter whose songs have been covered by the likes of Lee Roy Parnell and T. Graham Brown. His collaboration with former Ann Arborite Whit Hill, "What'd I Do," was featured in the HBO series *True Blood*.

RJ Spangler's Kansas City Six play Guy Hollerin's on Jan 7.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music 1st & 4th Tues. and every Thurs. 7:30–9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: "Guitarist Network."** All guitarists invited for a weekly jam session and group lesson that concludes with a group performance. 7:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 3: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Jan. 24: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club

207 S. Main **214–0400**

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences.

Rush Street

314 S. Main **913–0330**

This martini lounge features nightly DJs, along with live music, Thurs. 7–10 p.m., Fri. 8–10 p.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos.** Popular local Latin jazz quintet led by drummer Pete Siers that specializes in the old-school music of Cal Tjader, Mongo Santamaría, Tito Puente, and Joe Cuba. The band has amassed a large following among both jazz aficionados and salsa dancers. **Every Fri.: Legendary Wings.** Local jazz quintet that focuses on dynamic, challenging, and less commonly heard music from the modern jazz repertoire interspersed with free improvisation. The usual lineup features saxophonists Dan Bennett and Tim Haldeman, Fender Rhodes electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins. **Jan. 6: WEMU 5:01 Jazz Series.** With an ensemble led by veteran local saxophonist **Vincent York,** who performs a tribute to the late Detroit bebop trumpeter Louis Smith, a former U-M jazz professor and Pioneer High music teacher. 5–8 p.m.

The Session Room

3685 Jackson **585–7300**

This new west-side tavern features occasional live music, mostly weeknights, 8–11 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Jan. 5: Bob Skon Trio.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this trio led by Skon, a local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Jan. 11: Dede Alder.** Self-styled "ethereal gypsy music" by this Traverse City singer-songwriter and vibes players who fronts Dede & the Dreamers. **Jan. 19: Nicole P'Simer.** Ypsilanti acoustic folk-soul singer-songwriter.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University **214–6666**

This campus-area restaurant features live music Sun. 6–8 p.m., Fri. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, dancing to DJs with swing music (Wed. 10 p.m.–midnight) and tango music (Fri. 10 p.m.–midnight). No cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Will Mefford.** This local pianist improvises on the Great American Songbook, drawing from the styles of such jazz piano greats as Duke Ellington, Oscar Peterson, and Bill Evans. **Jan. 6: Michael Joseph.** This local singer-guitarist performs an eclectic array of covers from Badfinger to Cowboy Junkies and Smashing Pumpkins, along with a few originals. **Jan. 13:** TBA. **Jan. 20: Tim Prosser.** A mix of folk and pop covers and originals by this local singer-mandolinist, who is joined by guest musicians TBA. **Jan. 27: The Backeddies.** Americana roots-country ensemble fronted by vocalist Janet Benson and singer-guitarists Shannon Lee and John Baltic.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. 8 p.m.–midnight, and occasional Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.

2019 W. Stadium **369–2990**

This west-side brewpub features occasional live music, 8:30–11:30 p.m. No cover, dancing. January music schedule TBA.

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium **663–1202**

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Sun. 5–8 p.m., Mon. 7–10 p.m. (except Aug.), Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.** (except Jan. 1)**: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **Jan. 14: Cellar Cats.** An eclectic mix of rock 'n' roll, Motown, blues, soul, R&B, progressive rock, and swing by this ensemble of veteran local musicians fronted by singer-flutist Patty O'Connor. With guitarist and harmonica player Myron Grant, guitarist Kip Godwin, keyboardist Mark Wight, bassist Terry Gordinier, drummer John Marion, and Charles Dayringer on congas, clarinet, and sax. 7–10 p.m.

January Events

FILMS

61 Film Screenings
John Hinchey & Katie Whitney

GALLERIES

71 Exhibit Openings
Katie Whitney

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

52 Nightspots
John Hinchey

Jill Jack
Sandor Slomovits

MYRA KLARMAN

Kaleb Doughten-Priska performs at last year's "FutureStars" high school talent show. This year's shows are Jan. 20, 21, and 28.

EVENTS REVIEWS

59 Batsheva Dance Company
Mesmerizing
Leah O'Donnell

63 Mary Szybist
Longing for God
Keith Taylor

65 Collage Concert
A stunning crazy quilt
Josie Schneider

67 Dom Flemons
The American Songster
James M. Manheim

69 Meredith Monk
On Behalf of Nature
arwulf arwulf

We want to know about your event!
Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to AnnArborObserver.com).

★ *Denotes a free event.*

annarborobserver.com:
An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **AnnArborObserver.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on annarborobserver.com.

arbormail:
Get your alerts by email—send a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at AnnArborObserver.com/arbormail_help.html.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.AnnArborObserver.com

1 SUNDAY (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

★**"First Miles of 2017": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Short ride to a brunch spot for eating and socializing. Distance may be reduced or ride cancelled in bad weather; call ahead if uncertain. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 662–0205.*

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sun., Dec.–Mar.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *10 a.m. & 1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 545–0541 (10 a.m.), 994–5908 (1 p.m.).*

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sun.* All invited to a relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11:15 a.m., Fuller Park, just west of the pool & parking lot. Free. hac-ultimatelist@googlegroups.com, 846–9418.*

"Hands-On Holidays": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Dec. 26–Jan. 8.* Family-friendly hands-on activities and demonstrations. With live entertainment at 1 p.m. each day (except as noted), including **Yo-Yo Master Zeemo** (Dec. 26 & 27), **Dreamland Theater** (Dec. 28 & 29), **"Dan the Creature Man"** (Dec. 30 & 31), **"Drummunity"** (Jan. 1 & 4), **"The Music Lady"** (Jan. 2 & 3, 11 a.m.), **"Ron Loyd, the Bubble Man"** (Jan. 5 & 6), and **"Professor Ray's Everyday Science"** experiments with vibrations (Jan. 7 & 8). *Noon–5 p.m. (Jan. 1), 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Mon.–Sat., except Dec. 31), 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Dec. 31), & noon–4 p.m. (Jan. 8), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 (members & infants, free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

Beer & Board Games: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Sun.* All invited to play board games. Some games provided (or you can bring your own, if you wish). *4–7 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

"Ann Arbor Community Sing": Ann Arbor Senior Center. All invited to join this monthly gathering to sing songs from the various branches of American folk music. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5. 794–6250.*

WASHTENAW reads
ONE BOOK MANY CONVERSATIONS

Washtenaw Reads is a community initiative to promote reading and civic dialogue through the shared experience of reading and discussing a common book.

Beginning in January, join us for discussions of *$2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America* by Kathryn J. Edin & H. Luke Shaefer, the book selected for Washtenaw Reads 2017. Copies of the book are available at area libraries and bookstores. *For more information on Washtenaw Reads, including discussion guides and supplemental reading suggestions visit the Reads website at* **wread.org**.

NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK

NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITORS' CHOICE

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JANUARY/HIGHLIGHTS

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY

aadl.org

Events take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room unless otherwise noted.

JAN 10

FILM

NOTES ON BLINDNESS

TUESDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Notes on Blindness is an ambitious and groundbreaking work. In the summer of 1983, just days before the birth of his first son, writer and theologian John Hull went blind. In order to make sense of the upheaval in his life, he began keeping a diary on audiocassette. To complement this archive material, the filmmakers recorded over 20 hours of audio interviews with John and his wife Marilyn. These audio interviews are interwoven throughout the film's soundtrack, forming a lyrical narration, with the couple reflecting on events from a distance of thirty years. This 90-minute film is not rated.

JAN 11

COOKING 101 **HOW TO BUY ON A BUDGET**

WEDNESDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Keegan C. Rodgers, Head Baker at the People's Food Co-Op, leads this hands-on and lively workshop on how to shop well on a budget. *This event is cosponsored by the People's Food Co-Op and is part of an ongoing food and budgeting series.*

DTN SECRET LAB

JAN 11

ANN ARBOR AREA HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS

WEDNESDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Join us for an informational open house about high school options in the Ann Arbor area. Representatives from local high schools will be on hand to answer your questions and help you and your students make an informed choice.

GRADE 8-ADULT

JAN 12

SUSTAINABLE ANN ARBOR FORUM

GREEN YOUR HOME DIY

THURSDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Join the conversation about sustainability in Ann Arbor as the City and AADL host the annual Sustainable Ann Arbor series. The series will include four events (held monthly through April), each focusing on a different element of sustainability from Ann Arbor's Sustainability Framework. The first event in this series is Green Your Home DIY. Each program will include a series of short presentations followed by a question and answer session. *For more information and videos from current and past Sustainable Ann Arbor Forums, please visit the aadl.org and the City's Sustainability website.*

JAN 15

LINCOLN CENTER LOCAL SERIES

MOZART CELEBRATION

SUNDAY • 2 - 3:00 PM

Lincoln Center Local: Free Screenings, a program created by Lincoln Center Education and hosted by libraries and community centers, brings the best of Lincoln Center–world-renowned performances coupled with unparalleled educational resources–off its Manhattan-based campus and into communities anywhere. Today's screening is a festive all-Mozart program, previously recorded at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center in May 2013. *For more information on Lincoln Center Local please visit LincolnCenter.org/Local*

JAN 15

KICKOFF TO ANN ARBOR RESTAURANT WEEK

ICONIC RESTAURANTS OF ANN ARBOR

SUNDAY • 3 - 5:00 PM

Jon Milan and Gail Offen, authors of *Iconic Restaurants of Ann Arbor,* return to AADL to discuss their popular new book as well as recommendations for Ann Arbor dining. Whether you are a student, traveler, or "townie," you'll be fully prepped to dive in and savor Ann Arbor Restaurant Week. *This event is cosponsored by The Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.*

MALLETTS CREEK

JAN 16

MLK DAY CONCERT: BIAKUYE

MONDAY • 1 - 2:00 PM

Acclaimed percussion group Biakuye returns for this concert event on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Biakuye's music reflects the unique journeys of its members, which have taken them from the U.S. to Ghana, Uganda, South Africa, Trinidad, and Haiti. **GRADE K-ADULT**

JAN 17

TRIVIA TUESDAY WITH SWEETWATERS

TUESDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Bring your team of four brilliant trivia players, order lots of caffeine, and crush other teams with your superior knowledge to win awesome prizes. *This event is cosponsored by Sweetwaters Coffee and Tea.* • **WESTGATE**

JAN 21

APPLE SHOWCASE WITH MACTECHNICS

SATURDAY • 1 - 2:30 PM

Apple recently introduced new MacBook Pro laptop computers, new iPhones, and new operating systems for both. Chris Anderson of the Briarwood Apple Store will discuss and demonstrate new features of these latest devices and operating systems. After the event, please feel free to stay, ask questions and discuss the latest Apple products and learn more about MacTechnics. *This event is cosponsored by MacTechnics, the Ann Arbor Apple Users Group.* • **WESTGATE**

JAN 23

HEATHER ANN THOMPSON DISCUSSES HER BOOK ***BLOOD IN THE WATER: THE ATTICA PRISON UPRISING OF 1971 AND ITS LEGACY***

MONDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Award-winning U-M historian Heather Ann Thompson discusses her critically-acclaimed book, published to coincide with the forty-fifth anniversary of the infamous 1971 Attica prison uprising. This groundbreaking book is the first definitive account of the uprising, the state's violent response, and the victims' decades-long quest for justice. *This event includes a book signing and books will be for sale.*

JAN 25

WASHTENAW READS BOOK DISCUSSION

$2.00 A DAY: LIVING ON ALMOST NOTHING IN AMERICA

WEDNESDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

AADL staff lead a discussion of *$2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America* by Kathryn J. Edin & H. Luke Shaefer, the book selected for Washtenaw Reads 2017. *Copies of the book are available at area libraries and bookstores. For more information on Washtenaw Reads, visit the Reads website at wread.org.*

GRADE 9-ADULT

JAN 26

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS FORUM

TAXES: IS THE STATE LEGISLATURE PLAYING FAIR WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS?

THURSDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Join us for this panel discussion, including representatives from county, city, and township levels of government, to discuss how the Michigan Legislature's revenue sharing policies and budgets have affected local governments and how local governments are meeting these challenges. *The program is cosponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area.*

JAN 29

PRESCHOOL EXPO

SUNDAY • 1 - 4:00 PM

Looking for a preschool? The annual Preschool Expo brings representatives from area preschools to one location on one date. Explore your options and find the best preschool for your child. **DOWNTOWN LIBRARY LOBBY**

JAN 30

FRENCH MACARONS 101

MONDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Keegan C. Rodgers, Head Baker at the People's Food Co-Op, leads this hands-on and lively workshop on how to make macarons! *This event is cosponsored by the People's Food Co-Op and is part of an ongoing baking series.*

MALLETTS CREEK • GRADE 6-ADULT

JAN 31

PREDICTORS OF SUCCESS IN SCHOOL AND BEYOND

TUESDAY • 7 - 8:30 PM

Dr. Fred Morrison, U-M Professor of Psychology, will review the most important child, parenting, schooling, and larger sociocultural factors that impact achievement in school and beyond. *This program is part of the "Exploring the Mind" series and is cosponsored by The University of Michigan Department of Psychology.*

FOR INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND MORE, VISIT AADL.ORG

★The Arcade: Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Jan. 1, 15, & 29.* All invited to play short-form improv games. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. *7 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Free (pay what you can for spectators). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

2 MONDAY

★"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Mon.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10–11 a.m. & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.–noon), Westgate (Thurs. 2–3 p.m.), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) & ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. Refreshments. *12:30–4 p.m. (Mon.) & noon–3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $3 (members, $2) on Mon., $7 (members, $6) on Wed. & Thurs. 794–6250.*

★Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. *12:30–4:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon. & Thurs.* All ages invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Lunch available at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. ($5.50; age 60 & over, $3; reservations required). *1–3:30 p.m. (Mon.) & 10–11:30 a.m. (Thurs.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★"Ann Arbor Downtown Group Run": Running Fit. *Every Mon. & Thurs.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:15 p.m. (Mon.) & 6:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769–5016.*

★Lifetree Café: St. Paul Lutheran Church. *Every Mon.* All invited to join conversations on various topics, including **"Be Yourself: Everyone Else Is Taken"** (Jan. 2), **"Playing God: Is Science Going Too Far?"** (Jan. 9), **"Losing a Loved One to Alzheimer's"** (Jan. 16), **"Why Did I Survive: Questions from Natural Disasters and Other Escapes from Death"** (Jan. 23), and **"Confronting Evil: One Man Takes a Stand"** (Jan. 30). The program begins with video introductions. *7–8 p.m., 500 W. Liberty. Free. 665–7912.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon.* Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5. 395–7782, 769–1052, 426–0241.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Barry Aherne throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Come with a team (up to 6 people) or join one. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

West Coast Swing Party: Footnotes Ballroom Company. *Jan. 2 & 16.* Dancing to recorded music. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson ($10). *9–10:30 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $5 (free with lesson). 926–0107.*

3 TUESDAY

"The Little Scientist Club": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Every Tues. & Sat.* Crafts, science-themed stories, and hands-on activities for young kids, accompanied by a parent. Geared toward kids ages 3–6; older siblings welcome. *9:30–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 10:30–11:30 a.m. (Sat.), AAHOM Green Room (lower level), 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11–11:30 a.m.; Wed. 6–6:30 p.m.; & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Westgate (Mon. 11–11:30 a.m., Wed. 1–1:30 p.m., & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for $5.50 (age 60 & over, $3) at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.; reservations required. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★Weekly Rehearsal: Voices Valiant (U-M School of Music). *Every Tues.* All age 50 & over invited to join this choir. No experience necessary. *10:30 a.m.–noon, Liberty School Band Room, 7265 N. Ann Arbor*

St., Saline. Free for visitors ($112 per cycle membership dues). 936–2660.

★**Adults Tuesday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($3), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar. Also, at 1 p.m., **mah-jongg, quilting,** and other games & activities. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

★**"Ballerina Paper Snowflakes": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades 1–5 invited to learn how to make whimsical paper dancers. *2–3 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Story Time: Bookbound.** *Every Tues. & Sat.* Linda Zimmer reads seasonal stories for kids age 6 & under. *6 p.m. (Tues.) & 11 a.m. (Sat.), Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**"Ann Arbor East Group Run": Running Fit.** *Every Tues.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:15 p.m., Running Fit, 3010 Washtenaw. Free. 548–6299.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/. Free. 945–3035.*

English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $8 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *El Olvido que Seremos,* Héctor Abad Faciolince's memoir about his father, who was killed by Colombian paramilitaries in *1987. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. *Jan 3 & 17.* Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. Jan. themes TBA. The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. *7:30–9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. $8. 764–5118.*

"3rd Annual Ann Arbor 50 First Jokes": The Ark. Fifty comics from around Michigan, including both veterans and upstarts, take turns telling the 1st joke they've written in 2017. Similar events, which began at the Bell House in Brooklyn more than a decade ago, now also take place in New Orleans and L.A. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.*

★**Opera on Tap.** Local opera singers perform arias and art songs that address this month's theme, **"Ice Queens of Opera."** *8:30–10 p.m. (seating begins at 6:30 p.m.), Sidetrack Bar & Grill, 56 E. Cross, Ypsilanti. Free, but donations accepted (buy your own food). Reservations required (call between 10 a.m. & 8 p.m.). 483–5230.*

4 WEDNESDAY

★**Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops.** *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal demonstrates. *Noon–12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Silly Stories for the New Year": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL storytellers present a program of funny folktales for kids in grades preK–3 and their families. *2–2:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Concerto Competition Finals: U-M School of Music.** *Jan. 4 & 5.* Performances by undergraduate (Jan. 4) and graduate (Jan. 5) music students. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabble Club.** *Every Wed.* Word freaks of all abilities invited to drop in to play this popular word game, using the 5th edition Scrabble dictionary. Bring your own set, if you like. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084, 277–7748.*

★**"Ann Arbor West Group Run": Running Fit.** *Every Wed.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 5700 Jackson. Free. 929–9022.*

★**Kerrytown Crafters.** *Every Wed.* All crocheters, knitters, cross stitchers, hand quilters, and other crafters invited to work on their projects. Questions welcome, help available. *6:30–8:30 p.m. or so, Sweetwaters in Kerrytown, 407 N. Fifth Ave. Free. Facebook.com/groups/KTCrafters. 926–8863.*

★**Calvary Community Game Night: Calvary United Methodist Church.** All invited to play board games. Bring your own game if you wish, or use one provided. Snacks. *7 p.m., Calvary UMC, 1415 Miller at Newport. Free. a2calvary.org, 769–0869.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline east of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

Anne Heaton and Dave Rossiter: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Double bill. Heaton is a NYC-based pop-folk singer-songwriter and pianist who cites Peter Gabriel, Tori Amos, and the Indigo Girls as her main influences, and Rossiter is the local singer-songwriter and guitarist who fronts the classy noir-flavored alt-country band Hoodang. *7–9 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson, Chelsea. $15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330–5226.*

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** *Every Wed.* All invited to join a discussion of *The Karma of Vocation,* also known as *The Philosophy of Freedom,* Rudolf Steiner's cycle of ten 1916 lectures given in Dornach, Switzerland. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 678–5497.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wed. except Jan. 18.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Penn State. The U-M also has games this month against **Maryland** (Jan. 7, 3:15 p.m.), **Nebraska** (Jan. 14, 2 p.m.), **Illinois** (Jan. 21, 2:15 p.m.), and **Indiana** (Jan. 26, 9 p.m.). *8:30 p.m., Crisler Center. Ticket prices TBA at mgoblue.com/tickets. 764–0247.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Ryan Halsey hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. *9–11 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Rm. $5 (students, $3; $1 discount for members; free for those who attend the free lesson at 8 p.m.). 945–8428.*

5 THURSDAY

★**Mah-Jongg: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Thurs.* All seniors invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Beginners welcome. *10 a.m.–noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 332–1874.*

"The Future of Transportation: Don't Turn in Your Car Keys Yet!": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Every Thurs., Jan. 5–Feb. 9.* A series of 6 weekly lectures by different U-M and guest scholars. *Jan. 5:* Former GM vice-president of research, development, and planning Larry Burns, author of *Reinventing the Automobile: Personal Mobility for the 21st Century,* discusses **"Transforming Mobility: The Signal in the Noise."** *Jan. 12:* U-M Transportation Institute SMART managing director Susan Zielinski on **"The New World of Transportation: Connected, Multi-Modal, and Information-Technology Enabled."** *Jan. 19:* U-M mechanical engineering professor Huei Peng on **"Automated and Connected Vehicles: History, Development, M-City, and the Future."** *Jan. 26:* U-M electrical engineering and computer science professor and Toyota Research Institute autonomous driving development codirector Edwin Olsen on **"Safety of Autonomous Vehicles: Technology and Policy."** *Feb. 2:* U-M urban planning professor Jonathan Levine on **"Smart Policies, Smart Transportation: Impacts on Urban/Suburban/Rural Life."** *Feb. 9:* Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan CEO Michael Ford on **"The Future of Mass**

COMING SOON! MICHIGAN THEATER

AN EXCLUSIVE SERIES! MONDAYS BEGINNING THIS JANUARY

KURO 黒 THE DARK EDGE OF JAPANESE FILMMAKING

JANUARY 16 • 7:00 PM HIGH AND LOW (1963)

JANUARY 23 • 7:00 PM TOKYO DRIFTER (1966)

JANUARY 23 • 9:30 PM BRANDED TO KILL (1967)

JANUARY 30 • 7:00 PM ZERO FOCUS (1961)

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I VOTED?

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 · 7:00 PM

This documentary about election rigging will be followed by a brief presentation by onscreen subject J. Alex Halderman, PhD., Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and Director of the Center for Computer Security and Society at the University of Michigan.

SERIES SPONSORED BY ARBOR RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE FOR HEALTH

FILM SUPPORT FROM

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THE PEANUTS MOVIE IN 3D

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2016 - 2017 YEAR OF HUMANITIES & PUBLIC POLICY

Events at the **Institute for the Humanities** University of Michigan January 2017

All events are held at the **Institute for the Humanities, 202 S. Thayer,** unless otherwise noted.

All events are **free and open to the public**

734.936.3518

humin@umich.edu

Image: Acclaimed poet and 2016 MacArthur "Genius" Award winner Claudia Rankine

The Hub

Innovative exhibitions and arts programming.

Jan 9 - Feb 17 — *Nothing By Conquest* pop-up exhibition by **Nick Williams**, Osterman Common Room, M-F 9am-5pm
Jan 11 — *Nothing By Conquest* artist reception with **Nick Williams**, 4pm
Jan 18 — "Copy," lecture by artists **Joan Linder** and **Paul Vanouse**, U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State, 5pm
Jan 18 — *Atomic Highways and Byways* opening reception (immediately following lecture), 202 S. Thayer, 6pm
Jan 19 - Mar 10 — *Atomic Highways and Byways,* **Joan Linder** exhibition, M-F 9am-5pm

Lectures & Film

Presenting distinguished visitors & events to enhance the humanities and arts at Michigan.

Jan 16 — "Claudia Rankine on *Citizen: An American Lyric*," lecture, Q & A, and book signing with poet **Claudia Rankine**, Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington, 4pm. *Presented in conjunction with the Institute for Social Research*
Jan 17 — "A Cross-Disciplinary Discussion on American Racism with Keynote by **Claudia Rankine**," followed by PechaKucha-style discussion, Institute for Social Research, 426 Thompson, #1430, 10am
Jan 31 — *This Changes Everything*, film screening and discussion, Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E. Washington, 4pm

Author's Forum

A series on books & ideas presented in collaboration with the University Library and the Ann Arbor Book Festival.

Jan 25 — *The Fortunes:* A Conversation with **Peter Ho Davies** and **Douglas Trevor,** Hatcher Graduate Library, Gallery #100, 913 S. University, 5:30pm

FellowSpeak

Ongoing exchange with our fellows past and present.

Jan 17 — "Plato's Self-Moving Myth. The Circulation of Plato's Charioteer from Late Antiquity to the Renaissance," **Sarah Ahbel-Rappe**, 12:30pm
Jan 24 — "Good Households and Household Goods: Material Culture and Burgess Identity after the Black Death," **Katherine French**, 12:30pm

INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES | LSA | UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

www.lsa.umich.edu/humanities

Transit in Southeast Michigan: Where Do We Go from Here?" *10–11:30 a.m., Rave Cinema, 4100 Carpenter. $50 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.*

★Gifts of Art Concert Series: U-M Hospitals. *Every Thurs.* Performances by area musicians and a **snowflake making workshop** with longtime paper snowflake artist (and U-M physician) Thomas Clark (Jan. 5). *Jan. 12:* Flutist **Melissa-Kay Grey** and pianist **Naki Kripfgans** perform works inspired by bird songs, such as Messiaen's *Le Merle Noir,* Popp's *Nightingale Serenade,* and Shalumit Ran's *Birds of Paradise. Jan. 19:* Jazz piano by the **Bob Sweet Trio.** *Jan. 26:* Folk music by **Harmony Bones.** *12:10–1 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★"Drawing from Your Imagination": Ann Arbor District Library. Local street artist David Zinn, creator of the *Singing in the Rain* mural on S. Fifth Ave., offers adults and teens in grade 6 & up a hands-on introduction to illustration techniques using colored pencils. *1–2 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Felt Animal Masks": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for kids in grades 1–5. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★"3-D Printing: The Printrbot": Ann Arbor District Library. *Jan. 5, 14, & 26.* AADL staff show adults and kids in grade 6 & up how to use the Printrbot 3-D printer. *7–8 p.m. (Thurs.) & 10–11:30 a.m. (Sat), AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★Ann Arbor Go Club. *Every Sun. & Thurs., except. Jan. 1.* Players of all skill levels invited to play this challenging strategy board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *7 p.m.–close (usually midnight), Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. Free. umich.edu/~goclub*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $7. 761–6691.*

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. *7 p.m., Bona Sera, 200 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. $10. 973–6084, 663–0036.*

★"Lego Skyline London and Chicago": Barnes & Noble. All adults and teens age 14 & up invited to help build the store's new Lego in-store display and then build something with Lego Architecture Studio bricks. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations required. 973–0846.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

★Comhaltas. *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *7:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. facebook.com/DetroitIMA, contact@detroitirishmusic.org.*

Mike Stanley: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 5–7.* Chicago-based observational comic, originally from the Detroit area, who is known for his snappy, energetic delivery and a sharp wit that's alternately impudent and poetically suggestive. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

6 FRIDAY

★"Kinderconcert: Music and Motion": Ann Arbor District Library. Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra bassoonist Christian Green lead kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult) in a program that includes storytelling and dancing to live music. Participants also learn about the instruments. Accompanist is U-M music faculty pianist Kathryn Goodson. *10–10:30 & 11–11:30 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Drink & Draw/Imbibe & Inscribe": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Fri.* All invited to draw or write. Supplies and writing and drawing prompts provided. *3–7 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

★"Festival of Three Kings": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. All invited to a reading of the story of the 3 wise men from the Gospel of Luke and an informal enactment of the story. Cake. *7 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 678–5497, (517) 927–3696.*

"Bluegrass Skate": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Funky Frosty Friday. All invited to skate to classic and contemporary bluegrass. Prizes for best costume. *7:15–8:45 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. $6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, $5). $1 discount for city residents. Skate rentals available ($3). 794–6234.*

★Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. *Jan. 6 & 20.* All invited to join an ongoing discussion of the Anthroposophic Press collection ***Esoteric Development: Selected Lectures and Writings from the Work of Rudolf Steiner.*** Familiarity with Rudolf Steiner's basic ideas is helpful. *7:30–9 p.m., location TBA. Free. 944–4903.*

"Planet D Nonet: A Salute to Strayhorn": Kerrytown Concert House. This large award-winning Detroit ensemble, a self-styled "space-age swing band" founded by drummer RJ Spangler and trumpeter James O'Donnell, performs works from their small ensemble PD9's latest album, a collection of works associated with the composer, lyricist, arranger, and pianist Billy Strayhorn, who is best known for his collaborations with Duke Ellington. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Pointless Improv Shows": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Fri. & Sat.* Comedic improv by experienced local performers. The 10 p.m. Friday show, **"A Pointless Display of Improvised Feats"** is devoted to long-form improv. *8 & 10 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Tickets $12 (8 p.m.) & $10 (10 p.m.). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

Mike Stanley: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Friday Night Swing": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. 11:30 p.m.–1 a.m. is blues dancing. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a free beginner lesson. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $5 (students with ID, $4; $1 discount for AACTMAD members). 417–9857.*

7 SATURDAY

★A Global Security System: An Alternative to War": Public Citizens of Washtenaw (formerly Gray Panthers of Washtenaw). *Postponed from December.* Showing of this video from the recent National "No War" Conference of the World Beyond War, followed by discussion. Also, activists invited to discuss their recent social just activities. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 484–1628.*

★"Ann Arbor Saturday for Art": U-M Stamps School of Art & Design. *Every Sat., beginning Jan. 7.* All invited to make art in various styles. Jan. activities TBA at facebook.com/SaturdayForArt. *10 a.m.–noon, U-M Art + Architecture Bldg. (rm. 2062), 2000 Bonisteel. Free. saturdayforart@umich.edu, 277–0544.*

★Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway. *Jan. 7 & 14.* One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Proceeds from the Dec. 28 race benefit the Walk to End Alzheimer's. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. *10:30 a.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. $16 to race ($8 to rent a car, if available). (517) 960–5252.*

★Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble. *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★"Hunting Mammoths and Mastodons": U-M Natural History Museum. *Every Sat. & Sun. beginning Jan. 7.* Hands-on 20-minute interactive demo exploring some of the evidence of mastodon and mammoth hunting by people who lived in Michigan between 10 and 15 thousand years ago. Also, info about the recent Bristle mammoth find on a Chelsea farm. Geared toward adults and kids age 5 & up. *11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun. beginning Jan. 7.* Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (11:30 a.m. Sat., 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun.) is an exploration

Batsheva Dance Company

Mesmerizing

Two women in white lean toward an unseen prize. Together they tread cautiously, captivated. Tenderly they reach for it, claim it, bathe in it. After a beat, they get a sharp slap in the face—each by her own hand. Meanwhile, seated dancers watch without affect.

Part of the beauty with dance is the wordless space it leaves for interpretation. To catch the shifting imagery of Batsheva Dance Company's *Last Work,* you must not blink. Luckily, it is hard to look away. Dancers travel from swan-like grace to a pile of twisted bone at the speed of a finger snap. In a particularly mesmerizing scene, a huddled mass of bodies clasps its many fingers, producing a spine at the center of its collective form.

Some imagery lingers: a woman on a treadmill chases nothing in her party dress and slippers. A man in his work clothes runs against a tide of dancers. The group rows its bodies forward like an ensemble of sea waves while he continues the other way.

Throughout the seventy-five-minute piece, dancers go with and against the music, purposefully and unapologetically. Sometimes they provide percussion with their own bodies. Sometimes they are the very picture of fluid elegance. Stunning physical actors, these performers are able to abandon inhibition, stepping back into their graceful skeletons as they please.

Batsheva Dance Company is a force in the new surge of contemporary ballet, renouncing its aristocratic past and embracing the concept of the stage as a canvas for social commentary. Based in Tel Aviv and named for the baroness who backed its creation in 1964, Batsheva originally focused on American modern dance, under the artistic advisement of Martha Graham. Slowly, the works of emerging Israeli choreographers were incorporated into the repertoire, until finally, Ohad Naharin signed on as director in the 1990s.

By implementing his signature "gaga" technique, Naharin created a category of his own. Gaga requires constant movement: a physical stream of consciousness with a focus on connecting to one's inner groove. Dancers are encouraged to admit, savor, and respond to their joyful thoughts, sensual experiences, and painful twitches of the mind. In class, company members are encouraged to find a rhythm from inside that they can locate in silence or in sound. Teachers call out prompts—ideas or imagery for the dancers to respond to—and the results often end up on stage.

Gone are the days when dancers were seen and not heard. Inside Naharin's choreography is the streaming imagination of every individual on stage, ensuring that the curtain opens on a living thing. Hopefully, the title of *Last Work* is not to be taken literally.

Arrive open-minded and early. The show, which the University Musical Society brings to town January 7 and 8, has tons of beauty, some partial nudity, and no late seating.

—Leah O'Donnell

of the current night sky. ***Larry Cat in Space*** (12:30 p.m.) features a playful cartoon about an inquisitive cat that learns more than it wanted to know about life in space when it stows away on a shuttle to be with its owner, a scientist on her way to the moon. ***Two Small Pieces of Glass: The Amazing Telescope*** (2:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun.) is an audiovisual show that explores how telescopes work and what they can do. *Various times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at park office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $7 per player; free for spectators. $10 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

"Nabucco": Fathom Events. *Jan. 7 & 11.* Live broadcast (Jan. 7) and rebroadcast (Jan. 11) of the Metropolitan Opera production of Verdi's early opera based on biblical stories of the Jews being exiled from their homeland by the Babylonian King Nabucco. Its best-known number is "Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves," which often gets an encore in contemporary productions. Stars Plácido Domingo. Italian, supertitles. *12:55 p.m. (Jan. 7) & 6:30 p.m. (Jan. 11), Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Rave (4100 Carpenter). Tickets $18 (Quality 16) & $25 (Rave) in advance at fathomevents.com/event/nabucco-live. 623–7469 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Rave).*

★"Winter Birds at Rolling Hills": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Kelsey Bolda leads a hike to look for cardinals, juncos, and other birds. *2–4 p.m., Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti Twp. Free ($6 park entry fee). 971–6337.*

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Natural History Museum. *Every Sat. & Sun. except Jan. 1.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★"Happy Birthday Doctor Dolittle!": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K–5 invited to celebrate the birthday of Hugh Lofting, the writer who created the doctor who speaks to animals in their own tongue, by making their own physician's lap-book to chart voyages and heroic exploits across Africa and the British Isles. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★"Erupting Sensory Snow": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K–5 invited to learn how to use simple ingredients to make a substance resembling snow, then add an ingredient to make it erupt. *2–3 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Attendees asked to call ahead if there's inclement weather. *2:30–5 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. juggling.info@umich.edu, umich.edu/~juggle, 761–1115.*

★"Paper Punch Wall Art": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to use AADL paper punches and colorful paper to make a piece of wall art. *3–4 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch West Side Room, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Jan. 7 & 21.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 994–9307.*

"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment. Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. a free **Kids Open Stage.** *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

"Icebreakers ^2": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Sat.* All invited to play low-key parlor games. *4–7 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

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OLLI EVENTS– JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2017
Thursday Morning Lectures
10-11:30AM. Rave Cinema, 4100 Carpenter Rd
Theme for January 5–February 9
The Future of Transportation: Don't Turn in Your Car Keys Yet!
Theme for February 16–March 30
The Library–Civilization's Treasure House of Knowledge
OLLI Out of Town (Travel)
Tuesday, Jan 17
Transportation: Today and Tomorrow
Visit the Ford Rouge Factory and the Detroit Auto Show!
Distinguished Lecture Series
Tuesday mornings, 10–11:30AM
Rave Cinema, 4100 Carpenter Rd.
Tuesday, January 10
Victor Lieberman, Dept of History, UM
"Anti-Semitism: What Has Changed Since 1945"
Tuesday, February 14
David Brophy, UM Ross School of Business
"The Importance of the Private Equity Markets"
OLLI lectures are wheelchair accessible and offer listening devices. OLLI reserves the right to substitute speakers. Lectures and classes are cancelled when the Ann Arbor Public Schools close for severe weather.
You are invited to
OLLI's Winter Open House
Monday, January 9, 10 a.m.-12 noon
Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College
Registration begins January 11th
Learn about winter term study groups, trips, lectures and more.
Enjoy refreshments, meet instructors and OLLI committee members.
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Winter 2017 Ford School Events

All free and open to the public

Events will be live webstreamed at fordschool.umich.edu

February 1 | 4:00pm
Failure Factories: When Education Policies Desert Our Children
A Livingston Lecture with journalists Lisa Gartner, Michael LaForgia, Nathaniel Lash (1120 Weill Hall)

February 8 | 4:00pm
Abandoned Families: Social Isolation in the 21st Century
MLK Symposium event with Kristin Seefeldt (1120 Weill)

February 16 | 4:00pm
Issues of Sexual Assault & Harassment on College Campuses
Bill Axinn, Pamela Heatlie, Holly Rider-Milkovich, Emma Zorfass (BA '17) (1120 Weill)

March TBD
Hardy Vieux (MPP/JD '97)
Towsley Foundation Policymaker in Residence (1120 Weill Hall)

March 27 | 4:00pm
Patently Political: Life, Markets, and Morality in the United States and Europe
Shobita Parthasarathy (Palmer Commons)

April 10 | 4:00pm
Janet Yellen
Chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve System (Rackham Auditorium)

And don't miss the 10th Gramlich Showcase of Student Work! | March 10 | 3:00pm | Weill Hall

For more information: 734-615-9691 or fspp-events@umich.edu

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1st Saturday Contra & International Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Drake Meadow calls an hour of international dances. Followed by contra dances. With live music by 'Twas Brillig and the Mazel Toves. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and a silent auction (bring a gift item to donate). *7–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., just south of Oak Valley Dr. $12 (members, $11; students, $7). 769–1052.*

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle led by percussionist Curtis Glatter. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

"Last Work": Batsheva Dance Company (University Musical Society). *Jan. 7 & 8. See review, p. 59.* Founded in 1964 by the baroness Batsheva de Rothschild, a patroness of the late Martha Graham, this Tel-Aviv dance company came into its own as a modern dance company when choreographer Ohad Naharin became artistic director in 1990. Drawing on traditional folk dances such as the hora, Naharin brought a vibrant Israeli style to the troupe's choreography. This weekend they perform the North American premiere of Naharin's new work for 18 dancers that shifts from sustained, meditative movement to frenzied bursts of energy. The work utilizes Gaga, a movement style Naharin developed that emphasizes organic, delicate gestures and clarity of form. "Naharin can evoke states of pleasure, pain, madness, and a kind of animality," says the *New York Times* in a review of *Last Work*. Tonight's performance is preceded by a talk on the program at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby and followed by a Q&A with the artists. *Note:* strobe lights and partial nudity. *7:30 p.m. (Jan. 7) & 2 p.m. (Jan. 8), Power Center. Tickets $34–$58 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Milonga: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Jan. 7 & 21.* Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Rm. $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~matc*

Mike Stanley: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

8 SUNDAY

★"New Year's Hike & Wild Foods Potluck": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads a hike around Lake Genevieve. Followed by a potluck by the cabin fireplace (bring a dish to pass). At 1 p.m., a **"Wildcraft and Homestead Goods Barter"** (bring foraged and farmed food items, homemade baked goods, medicinals, soaps, crafts, seeds, plugs, cuttings, extra canning jars, or hand tools to trade). *Note:* the cabin is a 5-minute uphill hike from the parking lot (call ahead if you need to make arrangements for driving). *11 a.m.–2 p.m., Park Lyndon South, west lot, North Territorial Rd. 1.5 miles east of M–52. Free. 971–6337, ext. 335.*

★"Sundays with Gelek Rimpoche": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Sun. except Jan. 1.* Talk by Gelek Rimpoche, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. *11 a.m.–noon, Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994–3387.*

★"The Heart's Reason": First United Methodist Church Conversations About Science and Religion. Bharatiya Temple of Metro-Detroit member Narayana Swamy Sankagiri, a mechanical engineer, leads a discussion of this chapter of Krista Tippet's *Einstein's God: Conversations about Science and the Human Spirit. 11 a.m.–12:15 p.m., FUMC Calkins Hall, 120 S. State. Free. 662–4536.*

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste samples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $20. 929–6060.*

★"Engaging with Art": UMMA. *Jan. 8, 15, & 22.* Docent-led tour of the UMMA collection, with themes based on the docent's interests. *1–2 p.m., UMMA, meet at the Museum Store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. Robinsongs for Kids director Robin Robinson presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds, accompanied by an adult. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Drawing for Youth": Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Sun. beginning Jan. 8.* Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a different directed drawing activity each week for kids in grades 1–5. *1–2 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (Jan. 8 & 15) & 4th-floor meeting room (Jan. 29), 343 S. Fifth Ave., and West Branch West Side Room (Jan. 22), Westgate shopping center. Free. 327–8301.*

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327–4555. AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave., various times.

Jan. 10: **"Notes on Blindness"** (Peter Middleton & James Spinney, 2016). Award-winning lyrical documentary excavating the interior world of blindness. It is based on *Touching the Rock,* the theologian John Hull's 1990 memoir based on audiocassette diaries he kept over the course of 3 years after, on the eve of the birth of his 1st son, he suddenly went blind. 7–8:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Senior Center. $2 (members, free). 794–6250. 1320 Baldwin. 12:30–3 p.m.

Every Mon.: **"Movie Matinee,"** with films TBA.

Fathom Events. 973–8424. Tickets available in advance at fathomevents.com and at the door. Rave (4100 Carpenter), different times.

Jan. 5 & 9: **"Princess Mononoke: 20th Anniversary."** Subtitled (Jan. 5) and dubbed (Jan. 9) screenings of Hayao Miyazaki's 1997 complex anime fantasy adventure. Set in Japan's Iron Age, the epic details a siege by samurai and forest gods of a remote village populated by society's outcasts. With a screening of "On Your Mark," a 1995 music video directed by Miyazaki that has never been released in North America. $11.50. 7 p.m. (Jan. 5) & time TBA (Jan. 9).

Jan. 8: **"Carousel"** (Henry King, 1956). Adaptation of Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic musical about a Maine carnival barker who wins the love of a beautiful woman, dies in disgrace, and gets a chance to redeem himself after death with one final good deed. Gordon McRae and Shirley Jones. This 60th anniversary screening includes an interview with Jones and Rodgers & Hammerstein president Ted Chapin. $11.50. 2 & 7 p.m.

Jan. 8: **"The Bowden Dynasty: A Story of Faith, Family & Football."** Documentary about Bobby Bowden, the Florida State Seminoles coach who took the once-laughable team and coached them through 14 consecutive seasons of 10 or more wins. $14. 6 p.m.

Jan. 10, 12, & 17: **"One Piece Film: Gold"** (Hiroaki Miyamoto, 2016). Anime fantasy adventure. Time & cost TBA.

Jan. 14: **"Disney Junior at the Movies: Mickey's Big Celebration."** Premiere of the new Mickey Mouse series, *Mickey and the Roadster Racers.* $11.50 (kids, $9.50). 10 a.m.

Jan. 15: **"Singin' in the Rain"** (Stanley Donen and Gene Kelly, 1952). 65th anniversary screening of this celebrated musical, a lighthearted, dance-filled comedy about silent movie stars struggling to make the transition to talkies. Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds. With commentary by Turner Classic Movies host Ben Mankiewicz. 2 p.m. ($8) & 7 p.m. ($10.25).

Jan. 16: **"Sherlock: Season Four Finale."** Screening of this feature-length episode in the BBC Sherlock Holmes series. Benedict Cumberbatch & Martin Freeman. $14, 7 p.m.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Jan. 21: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Jan. 27: **"Little Buddha"** (Bernardo Bertolucci, 1994). Visually impressive story of a Tibetan monk who believes a Seattle boy is the reincarnation of a great Buddhist teacher, interspersed with the story of the Buddha's life. Keanu Reeves, Chris Isaak, Bridget Fonda. Discussion follows.

Karma Thegsum Choling. FREE. 678–7549. 614 Miner, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 18: **"Tulku"** (Gesar Mukpo, 2010). Documentary about the experiences of 5 young Western men who were identified in childhood as a *tulku,* a reincarnated Tibetan Buddhist master.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually 2–3 times a day. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; weekdays before 6 p.m., $7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Jan. dates TBA: **"Elle"** (Paul Verhoeven, 2016). A successful businesswoman gets caught up in a game of cat and mouse as she tracks down her rapist. **"20th Century Women"** (Mike Mills, 2016). Story of 3 women who explore love and freedom in Southern California in the late 1970s. Annette Bening, Elle Fanning, and Greta Gerwig.

Jan. 1 & other dates TBA: **"Lion"** (Garth Davis, 2016). A 30-year-old man sets out to find his lost family who he last saw as a 5-year-old in India. **"La La Land"** (Damien Chazelle, 2016). Musical comedy about a jazz pianist who falls for an aspiring actress in L.A. Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone.

Jan. 15: **"The Peanuts Movie"** (Steve Martino, 2015). Animated adventure based on the venerable Charles M. Schulz comic in which Snoopy embarks upon his greatest mission as he and his team take to the skies to pursue their arch-nemesis, while his best pal Charlie Brown begins his own epic quest back home to win the love of his life. Kids under 12, free. 1:30 p.m.

Jan. 16: **"High and Low"** (Akira Kurosawa, 1963). An executive of a shoe company becomes a victim of extortion when his chauffeur's son is kidnapped and held for ransom. Toshiro Mifune. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Jan. 17: **"Tower"** (Keith Maitland, 2016). Animated documentary about a 1966 shooting at the University of Texas clock tower.

Jan. 18: **"Mind/Game: The Unquiet Journey of Chamique Holdsclaw"** (Rick Goldsmith, 2015). Documentary about the basketball superstar dubbed the "female Michael Jordan," from her rise to WNBA stardom to her struggle with mental illness. Followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with Holdsclaw and local mental health experts. Free, but preregistration required at athletesconnected.umich.edu/mind-game.

Jan. 19: **"Fire at Sea"** (Gianfranco Rosi, 2016). Documentary about life on the Italian island of Lampedusa, a frontline in the European refugee crisis. Italian & English, subtitles.

Jan. 20 & 24: **"Seasons"** (Jacques Perrin & Jacques Cluzaud, 2015). Sweeping nature documentary that follows animals through 4 seasons, with historical info about the seasons from the Ice Age to today. French, subtitles.

Jan. 20 & 24: **"The Brand New Testament"** (Jaco Van Dormael, 2015). Comic fantasy about God living in Brussels with his daughter. French & German, subtitles.

Jan. 21: **"The Age of Shadows"** (Jee-woon Kim, 2016). Drama, set in the late 1920s, about a group of Korean resistance fighters trying to bring in explosives from Shanghai to destroy key Japanese facilities in Seoul. Korean, subtitles. Part of the U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies' Korean Cinema NOW series. FREE, 1 p.m.

Jan. 23: **"Tokyo Drifter"** (Seijun Suzuki, 1966). After his gang disbands, a yakuza enforcer looks forward to life outside of organized crime but soon must become a drifter after his old rivals attempt to assassinate him. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Jan. 23: **"Branded to Kill"** (Seijun Suzuki, 1967). A hit-man, with a fetish for sniffing boiling rice, fumbles his latest job, putting him into conflict with his treacherous wife, with a mysterious woman eager for death, and with the phantom-like hit man known only as Number One. Japanese, subtitles. 9:30 p.m.

Jan. 25: **"I Voted?"** (Jason Grant Smith, 2016). Nonpartisan documentary that examines the capture and counting of ballots in our elections—and the reliability of the results they produce. Followed by a talk by U-M Center for Computer Security and Society director J. Alex Halderman. 7 p.m.

Jan. 26 & 27: **"The Best Worst Thing That Ever Could Have Happened"** (Lonny Price, 2016). Documentary about the original cast of Stephen Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* in the 30-plus years since the musical debuted on Broadway.

Jan. 28: **"Veteran"** (Seung-wan Ryoo, 2015). Comic action flick about a detective hunting down a spoiled young man who's been committing every crime he can think of. Korean, subtitles. Part of the U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies' Korean Cinema NOW series. FREE, 1 p.m.

Jan. 29 & 31: **Sundance Shorts.** A collection of 8 of the best animated and live action short films from the 2016 Sundance competition. 1:30 p.m. (Jan. 29) & 7 p.m. (Jan. 31).

Jan. 30: **"Zero Focus"** (Yoshitarō Nomura, 1961). When a woman's new husband disappears on a business trip, she discovers a pair of mysterious postcards hidden away in a book that may be clues to his fate. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. FREE. 764–0351.

Jan. 26: **"Houston, We Have a Problem!"** (Žiga Virc, 2016). Quasifictional mockumentary that explores the myth of the secret multi-billion-dollar deal behind America's purchase of Yugoslavia's clandestine space program in the early 1960s. Croatian, English, Serbian, and Slovene; subtitles. Followed by discussion with the director and producer. UMMA, 6–8:30 p.m.

U-M Institute for the Humanities. FREE. 936–3518

Jan. 31: **"This Changes Everything"** (Avi Lewis, 2015). Documentary inspired by Naomi Klein's international bestseller about communities experiencing the extremes of climate change. Rackham Amphitheatre (4th floor), 4 p.m.

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9 MONDAY

★"Sensation Stations": Ann Arbor District Library. All toddlers ages 18 months–3 years invited to drop in to engage their senses by scooping, pouring, squeezing, and shaking a variety of materials. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Mon.–Fri. beginning Jan. 9.* All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. *1–2:30 p.m. (Mon.), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.; 7–8:30 p.m. (Mon. & Tues.), AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy; 6–7:30 p.m. (Wed.) & 1–2:30 p.m. (Fri.), AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard; 6–7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center; Free. 327–4200.*

★"Textile Inheritance: Historic Weft-Faced Compound Figured Silks and Modern Weaving": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. University of Birmingham (UK) ancient textiles scholar Julia Galliker discusses new research methods used to study museum textile collections. The program begins with socializing. *6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall (lower level, enter on the east side of the building (Jan. 8 & 29) & Secret Lab (Jan. 15), 343 S. Fifth Ave., and Westgate West Side Room (Jan. 22), Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★Ann Arbor Morris. *Every Sun., except Jan. 1.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish *moresca.* Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Gretchen's House, 1580 Dhu Varren. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 717–1569.*

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Jan. 8 & 22.* All singers, acoustic & electric guitarists, bassists, mandolinists, banjoists, ukulele players, percussionists, keyboardists, and other musicians invited to join organizer Michael Niemi to play folk, rock, country, or original tunes. Bring a music stand and copies of sheet music. Listeners welcome. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5 (members, free). Preregistration required for musicians at meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 794–6250.*

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. *Every Sun. beginning Jan. 8.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m. Michigan Union Ballroom (Jan. 8, 15, & 22) & Michigan League Ballroom (Jan. 29). $5 ($10 includes lessons). 763–6984.*

★Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *1–4 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 663–0262.*

★"Kerry Tales: 'Happy New Year' says Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★"Japanese Prints of Kabuki Theater": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of prints from the UMMA collection. *2–3 p.m., UMMA, meet at the Museum Store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Last Work": Batsheva Dance Company. See 7 Saturday. 2 p.m.

★"Bubble Bath Day Storytime": Ann Arbor District Library. AADL staff present a storytelling program for preschoolers. *3–3:30 p.m., AADL youth story corner, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Drawing for Adults": Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Sun. beginning Jan. 8.* Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a directed drawing activity for adults, exploring different tasks, techniques, and mediums each week. *3–5 p.m., AADL 4th floor meeting room*

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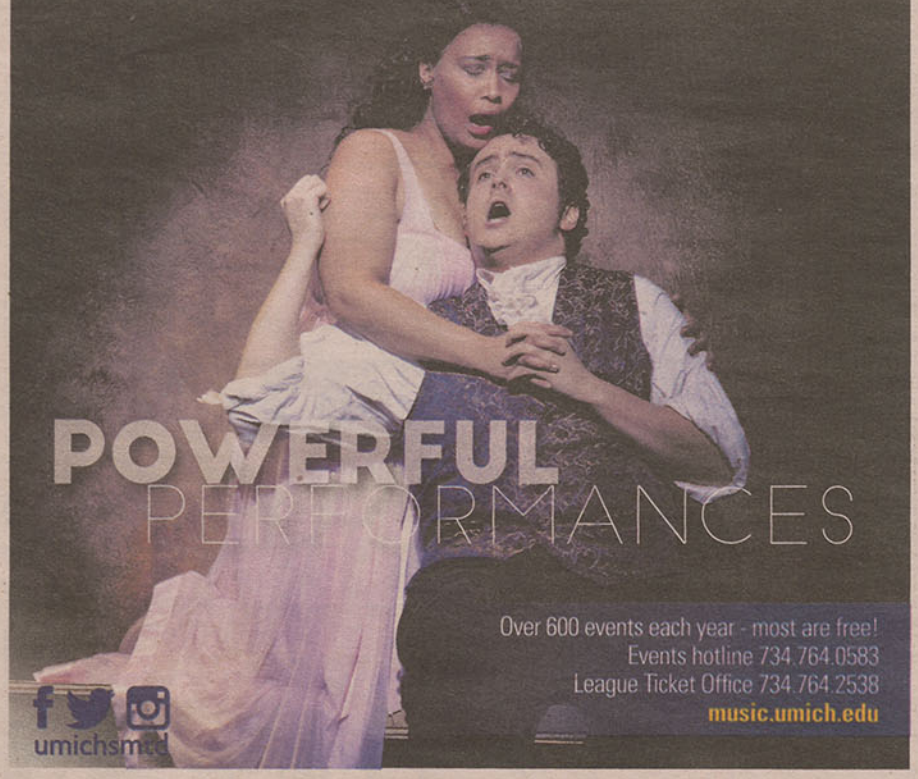

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★**"Fiber Arts Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 9 & 23.* All invited to learn the basics of **knitting** (Jan. 9) or **crochet** (Jan. 23). Materials provided. Experienced fiber artists are invited to bring a project to work on. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Emerging Writers: Red Pens and Rewrites": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local short story writer Alex Kourvo and young adult novelist Bethany Neal discuss how to take a book from rough draft to finished manuscript. For adult and teen (grade 6 & up) fiction and nonfiction writers. Also, Kourvo and Neal host an open house for writers to connect with one another and/or work on their projects at 7 p.m. on Jan. 23. *7–8:45 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Omar Saif Ghobash: Literati Bookstore.** This ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Russia discusses ***Letters to a Young Muslim,*** his new book, written as a series of personal letters to his son, about how moderate Muslims can be faithful to Islam while actively and productively engaging in the modern world, without succumbing to extremist propaganda. *7 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Dealers and Their Venues": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** Arbor Stamps owner Michael Homel gives the first in a series of talks, this one on selling and buying at stamp shows. Also, American Philatelic Society circuit books and a mini stamp auction. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free. harwin@umich.edu, 761–5859.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($35 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

10 TUESDAY

Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. *Every Tues. (when Ann Arbor Public Schools are in session), Sept. 13–Apr. 25.* All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. *9:30–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. $25 for the year. 665–0105.*

"Anti-Semitism: What Has Changed Since 1945": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by U-M history professor Victor Lieberman, a world-renowned authority on Southeast Asian and Eurasian history who received the 2014 Golden Apple Award given by U-M students to the best U-M teacher. His books include *The Hundred-Year Struggle for Israel and Palestine: An Analytic History and Reader.* Fifth in a series of 9 monthly lectures. *10–11:30 a.m., Rave Cinema, 4100 Carpenter. $65 (members, $45) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.*

★**"Sensory-Friendly Storytime": Literati Bookstore.** Interactive storytime for kids of all ages. Geared toward kids of diverse abilities, with weighted blankets, lap pads, and small fidget toys available for them to use. *11 a.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. rlblinguist@gmail.com, 585–5567.*

★**String Showcase: U-M School of Music.** Outstanding string students perform solo and ensemble chamber works. *3 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

★**"New Directions in the Study of the Yishuv": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Panel discussion with Frankel Institute fellows Liora Halperin, Noah Hysler-Rubin, and Lior Libman on the study of the Yishuv, the Jewish community in prestate Palestine. *4:10 p.m., 202 S. Thayer (Rm. 2022). Free. 763–9047.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Indiana. The U-M also has games this month against **Minnesota** (Jan. 15, noon or 4:30 p.m.) and **Northwestern** (Jan. 25, 7 p.m.). *6 p.m., Crisler Center. $6 & $8 (groups of 10 or more, $3 each). 764–0247.*

"Ann Arbor Bluegrass Meetup": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Jan. 10 & 24.* All musicians invited to bring their acoustic instruments to play bluegrass and bluegrass-style music. Vocalists welcome. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5 fee to cover building rental. meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Bluegrass-Meetup. 794–6250.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss ***The Peripheral,*** William Gibson's dystopian thriller set in a near future where a working-class woman earns a living as a combat scout in an online game that turns out to be more real than virtual. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**"Integrative Mental Health": People's Food Co-op.** Local physician Deepti Reddy discusses neurochemistry and gives an overview of supplements and other treatments that can improve mood and cognitive function. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994–4589.*

★**Bill Ayers: Literati Bookstore.** This University of Illinois–Chicago education professor (and U-M grad and Weather Underground co-founder) discusses ***Demand the Impossible,*** his new book that critiques the systems around us, calls for radical change, and encourages activism. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"After Nature: A Politics for the Anthropocene": Huron Valley Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss Jedediah Purdy's book about the history of how Americans have shaped their landscapes and the competing traditions that inform environmental law and culture. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Department of Piano Faculty Recital: U-M School of Music.** U-M piano professors **Christopher Harding, Amy Cheng, Martin Katz, Logan Skelton, Arthur Greene, Matt Bengtson,** and **John Ellis** perform works by Schumann, Schubert, Bartok, Chopin, Nancarrow, and Cunningham. *7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

11 WEDNESDAY

★**"Hearing Race and Music in Communist East Germany ": U-M Center for European Studies Conversations on Europe.** Talk by U-M Germanic languages & literatures professor Kira Thurman. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**Potluck & Talk: Pittsfield Union Grange.** Club members Carl Fuerst and Jenn Mills discuss a cross-country bike ride they did last summer. The program begins with a potluck (bring a dish to pass). *6:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 769–1052.*

"Nabucco": Fathom Events. See 7 Saturday. 6:30 p.m.

★**Seed Cleaning and Exchange: Wild Ones.** Demonstration of seed cleaning techniques, including ritual fire for milkweed. All invited to bring seeds to clean and exchange. Seeds available to take home. *6:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free; metered parking. 604–4674.*

★**"Clothespin Trivets & Wall Hangings": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a piece of functional art using clothespins and glue. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Cooking 101: How to Buy on a Budget": Ann Arbor District Library.** People's Food Co-op head baker Keegan Rodgers discusses how to shop well on a budget, including meal plans, grocery lists, how to save money at the grocery store, and how to maximize use of ingredients and minimize food waste. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Blues Jam": Ann Arbor Senior Center. All invited to play, learn, and/or listen to blues and roots music. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5 fee to cover building rental. meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Blues-Jam. 794–6250.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**History Readers: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion led by Oakland University history professor emerita Renate Gerulaitis of Bruce Levine's ***The Fall of the House of Dixie: The Civil War and the Social Revolution That Transformed the South.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 484–3613.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

12 THURSDAY

"Little Paws Story Time": Huron Valley Humane Society. *Jan. 12 & 26.* Kids ages 2–5, accompanied by an adult, invited for stories, crafts, finger plays, and interaction with adoptable cats. Also, a chance to make a toy or treat for the animals. The Humane Society also sponsors **"Cat Tales Story Time"** (Jan. 15, 10:30 a.m.) at their new cat café, the Tiny Lions Center (5245 Jackson, ste. A1). *10:30 a.m., 3100 Cherry Hill Rd. $5 per child. 661–3575.*

Ikebana International. An ikebana instructor TBA leads a session of Japanese flower arranging. *1–2:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens rm. 125,*

Mary Szybist

Longing for God

The first small poem of Mary Szybist's first book ended with this remarkable statement: "there are some sadnesses / in which I do not long for God." I find it remarkable because few contemporary poets admit to a Christian perspective, even if they carry its psychological imprint. Ten years after that book, Szybist published *Incarnadine,* her second book, and much to everyone's surprise it won the National Book Award. Second books seldom win that prize, let alone books that have gestated for such a long time and have such a weighty concern with the old, big themes. The judges of that prize called Szybist's "a religious book for nonbelievers."

Every poem in *Incarnadine* is concerned with or shaped by the story of the Annunciation, the appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary telling her that she will give birth to a King. That is, of course, the Virgin Mary and not Mary, the poet, although the poet takes pleasure in the confusion of names.

The Annunciation in this book is remembered not simply as it appears in Luke's gospel, but as it appears over and over again in Renaissance art. Szybist also finds the sacred moment in the words of Nabokov and Bill Clinton investigator Ken Starr, in scientific writing about butterflies, even in political speeches by Robert Byrd and George W. Bush. It colors the way the poet hears two little girls doing a jigsaw puzzle and the way she reads a poem. In an interview, Szybist says, "Paintings of the Annunciation tend to reinforce a vision that a transformative encounter between two radically different kinds of being is possible."

There is nothing easy or naive about the poet's reflection on this moment. She starts a poem called "Holy" like this:

> Spirit who knows me, I do not feel you
> fall so far in me,
> do not feel you turn in my dark center.
> My mother is sick, and you
> cannot help her.
> My beautiful, moon-faced mother is sick
> and you sleep in the dark edges of her shadow.

"Holy" ends up being a poem of elegant despair at her mother's illness and imminent death. It ends: "Fragile mother, impossible spirit, will you fall so far / from me, will you leave me / to me?"

The spirit at the beginning, the one who would not help, is gone now, and the spirit that remains in the end is the fragile mother. *That,* the poet seems to imply, is what is really holy.

But there is still a transcendent vision in this remarkable book. In one poem Szybist writes, "I think I see annunciations everywhere." And she begins another, "Update on Mary," playing on her own simple name and its historic connection to the divine moment: "Mary always thinks that as soon as she gets a few more things done and finishes the dishes, she will open herself to God." It is that possibility that makes this poet different and makes Szybist perhaps even one of the important poets of our time.

Mary Szybist reads from *Incarnadine* and other poems at UMMA on Thursday, January 12.

—Keith Taylor

1800 N. Dixboro. $20 materials fee; metered parking. Preregistration required. a2ikebana@gmail.com

★"Lunch & Learn": Jewish Community Center. *Jan. 12 & 19.* Cultural or educational program preceded at noon by a homemade dairy lunch (seniors with reservations, $3; $4 without reservation and for nonseniors). *Jan. 12:* A museum staff member discusses the **Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum.** *Jan. 26:* A visit from a **Therapaws** therapy dog. *1 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"Robert Platt: Prosfuge": U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series. This international artist, a graduate from the Royal College of Art (UK), discusses his work, which includes, painting, architectural installation, and moving images. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668–8463.*

★Mary Szybist: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. *See review, above.* Reading by this Pennsylvania-born poet, a Lewis & Clark College (OR) English professor who won the National Book Award for Poetry in 2013 with her 2nd collection, *Incarnadine.* Szybist's "lovely musical touch is light and exact enough to catch the weight and grind of love," says poet Kay Ryan. "This is a hard paradox to master as she does." *5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330.*

"A Taste of Italy": Zingerman's Cornman Farms. Cornman Farms executive chef Kieron Hales is joined by Italian artisanal food exporter and tour guide **Gioacchino Passalacqua** to host a multicourse meal with wine pairings featuring a menu that combines imported Italian foods with Cornman Farms' winter produce. *7–9:30 p.m., Cornman Farms, 8540 Island Lake Rd., Dexter. $125. Reservations required. 619–8100.*

★"Electronics Lab": Ann Arbor District Library. *Jan. 12 & 20.* All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to learn different electronics basics. You can also bring in an in-progress electronics project if you want a place to work on it. Soldering irons, multimeters, and an oscilloscope available for use. *Jan. 12:* **"Data Visualization."** Learn to use the Processing programming language to represent data visually. *Jan. 20:* **"Relays with Arduino."** Learn to use an Arduino microcontroller to make electronic relays. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"City of Ann Arbor 2017 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum: Green Your Home DIY": Ann Arbor District Library. The 1st in a series of 4 monthly forums with city staff and other panelists discussing programs and offering tips to make your home more eco-friendly. Panelists and topics: Geostellar founder and CEO David Levine on installing solar energy in your home, Washtenaw County housing programs supervisor Aaron Kraft on weatherizing your home, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner and master rain gardens coordinator Roger Moon on building rain gardens and installing rain barrels, and Growing Hope founder and executive director Amanda Edmonds on growing your own food. Moderated by city councilman Chip Smith. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Story Night": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild members host a storytelling program. Audience members are encour-

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aged to bring a 5-minute story to tell. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

"Idiot-Syncrasy": Igor and Moreno (University Musical Society). *Jan. 12–14.* London-based dancers Igor Urzelai and Moreno Solinas perform their work that explores togetherness and solitude and incorporates jumping, singing (including a Sardinian folk song), and actions that require perseverance and create a sense of empowerment. Today's performance is preceded at 7 p.m. by a talk about the program and followed by a Q&A with the artists. "Idiot-Syncrasy is a warm, fabulous and funny show, but it also makes us vividly and unsettlingly aware of the altered states that we and the dancers can undergo during the course of a performance," says a *Guardian* review. *7:30 p.m. (Jan. 12) & 8 p.m. (Jan. 13 & 14), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $35 & $40 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Kristin Key: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 12–14.* This Texas comic, who first gained national attention as a contestant on *Last Comic Standing*, is known for blending improvisation and physical comedy with winningly self-deprecating observational humor. Her act also features comic songs accompanied on guitar. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $13 (Thurs.) & $16 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Ballroom Social: Footnotes Ballroom Company. *Jan. 12 & 26.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music. *8:30–10 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $5. 926–0107.*

13 FRIDAY

★"USGS Great Lakes Science Center": Ann Arbor District Library. Guided tour of the local U.S. Geological Survey labs, an analytic lab for processing field samples and a 30,000-gallon aquatic research lab. *Noon–1 p.m., meeting location TBA. Free. Preregistration required via email to fieldtrip@aadl.org. 327–4555.*

★"Cordillera Capital: Baguio and the Architecture of U.S. Colonialism in the Philippines": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. University of Notre Dame history professor Rebecca McKenna discusses the construction and use of Baguio, an American colonial retreat in the U.S. colonial Philippines located in the mountains of northern Luzon. *Noon, 1636 SSWB/International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0352.*

★"The Political Economy of Plunder": U-M LS&A Bicentennial Theme Semester Symposium 1817: Nation Building in the Old Northwest and the Making of the University of Michigan. Lecture by U-M American culture professor Michael Witgen and U-M African American women's history professor Tiya Miles. *4–6 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 615–7400.*

"Pets & Pajamas": Huron Valley Humane Society. Kids ages 5–11 invited to watch the animated adventure comedy ***Ice Age.*** Also, a chance to interact with adoptable pets. Pizza dinner. Wear pajamas and bring a sleeping bag and pillow. *5–9 p.m., Humane Society, 3100 Cherry Hill (south off Plymouth east of Dixboro). $35 ($15 for additional children). Preregistration required. hshv.org, 661–3575.*

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. *Note: 2nd Friday in Jan.* All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine and challah, and **Jewish Jeopardy,** the JCS's customized adaptation of the popular quiz game. Children welcome. *6:30–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 (family, $25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975–9872.*

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students, including Michigan fiction writer **Yasin Abdul-Muqit** and Colorado poet **Ambalila Hemsell.** *7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

★"A Night of Poetry at Nicola's": Nicola's Books. Readings by 5 poets who either grew up in Michigan or now call the Midwest home, including **August Smith, Dylan Lancaster, KFG, Elysia Smith,** and **CM Keehl.** Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★"An Evening with Colson Whitehead": U-M LS&A Bicentennial Theme Semester. Reading by this respected, bestselling NYC-based novelist and essayist whose candid and witty works deal with issues of race, class, and consumerism. His most recent novel, ***The Underground Railroad,*** won the National Book Award. It imagines the Underground Railroad as a physical network of tracks and tunnels beneath Southern soil. A *New York Times* review calls it a "potent, almost hallucinatory novel … It possesses the chilling matter-of-fact power of the slave narratives collected by the Federal Writers' Project in the 1930s, with echoes of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*, Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, and brush strokes borrowed from Jorge Luis Borges, Franz Kafka and Jonathan Swift." Signing. Part of the "Symposium 1817" (see listing above). *7–9 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Free. 615–7400.*

St. Vladimir's Annual Nativity Ball: St. Vladimir Russian Orthodox Church. Dinner and dancing to music from around the world. This year's theme is "Celebration Around the World." Also, performances by the First Presbyterian Church hand bell choir, the St. Vladimir missionary choir, and the St. Vladimir dance group. Games, raffle, and a cash bar. Attendees encouraged to dress in any national costumes, or represent any folk culture. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a cocktail hour. *7 p.m., Weber's Inn Grand Ballroom, 3050 Jackson Rd. Tickets $60 (dance only, $20) in advance by Jan. 5. 272–3826.*

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. *Jan. 13 & 27.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. *8–10 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764–3440.*

"Rising Stars Series with the Sean Dobbins Organ Quartet": Kerrytown Concert House. Local drummer Dobbins leads his quartet in works from their latest CD, The Journey, as well as other jazz standards with a twist. With guest alto saxophonist Benny Rubin Jr. Also, talks by rising jazz stars from the Detroit area. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

The Juggernaut Jug Band: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Traditional jug band music by this acclaimed quartet from Louisville, the birthplace of jug bands. A mixture of classic jazz, ragtime, and blues, jug band music is a swaggering party music, full of high spirits and sexual humor, performed by a modified string band that includes kazoos and other wind instruments, washboard, and, of course, a stoneware jug, an instrument from which a good musician can coax a surprisingly lyrical, hauntingly reverberant sound. Juggernaut has been featured on both the *Today Show* and the *Dr. Demento* radio show, and the material on its latest CD, *You Mean We Get Paid for This?*, ranges from the Mississippi Sheiks' blues standard "Sittin' on Top of the World" to Khachaturian's "Sabre Dance." Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Shifting: 65th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Program. *Jan. 13–15.* EMU dance students perform an eclectic mix of genres from ballet and modern to musical theater and jazz dance by faculty and guest choreographers, including Ballet Chelsea artistic director **Wendi DuBois,** Brighton Dance Festival founder-director **Kathy King,** EMU dance major **Patrick McCrae,** EMU grad **April Pipe,** Boy Friday (NYC) artistic director (and EMU alumnus) **Erik Abbott-Main,** Hardcore Detroit dance company director **Haleem "Stringz" Rasul,** and EMU dance professors **Joanna McNamara, Sherry Jerome Wilkinson,** and **Phil Simmons.** Program: DuBois' *Wind* is a contemporary ballet, inspired by Emily Dickinson's "To All the Sounds Dispatched Abroad," with a Phillip Glass score, and King's *Light,* an ode to Prince, is a work for 7 dancers featuring vibrant movement, passion, and athleticism. McCrae's *Family, Unconditional?* is an exploration of intra-familial anger and frustration set to music by Icelandic electronica composer Ólafur Arnalds. Pipe's *Head in Cloud & Digital Trails* is an exploration of our digital doppelgängers that was inspired by her surprise in learning that Google Maps has detailed records of her daily travels going back to 2011, and Abbott-Main's *FLOAT* is a group work, set to music by the hip-hop duo Luniz, for 8 post-apocalyptic dancers marching to "Make the Future Great Again." Rasul presents *Work,* a dance showcasing Detroit Jit, a street dance form, usually performed to techno music, known for its lightning-quick footwork and deep connection to Detroit history and culture. It is set to a score by Detroit jazz fusion composer Javonntte Garrett. McNamara's *Detroit Meta* is a screen dance with a Howard Cass score celebrating the urban landscape of Detroit, and Wilkinson presents the fairy dance and pas de deux from her classical ballet choreography for Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream.* Simmons presents "Mein Herr" (aka

Collage Concert

A stunning crazy quilt

Hill Auditorium's stage gets a hefty annual workout with the aptly named Collage Concert by the U-M School of Music, Theatre, & Dance. For thirty-nine years this student showcase has been riveting audiences with a crazy quilt of diverse performances whose origins span centuries. This year's concert takes place January 14 at Hill.

At any given moment of last year's concert, at least three groups of performers populated Hill's pretty arched stage. Over two hours, musical numbers ranged from fully orchestrated Strauss, to a John Williams movie theme, to dancing to M.I.A., around the bend to a swing number by Thad Jones, and full circle to Bach, among many others. The nineteen groups that performed included eight virtuoso violinists, three sets of dancers, Shakespearean prose speakers, a steel drum quartet, and two solo pianists. When the lights lowered, marking the beginning of the concert, there were so many musicians on stage that a portion of the Jazz Ensemble jutted out on a temporary extension of stage left.

The clever lighting focused on whichever group was performing, with just-finished players scurrying out in the cover of darkness and the next bunch moving in.

Rapid changes were executed flawlessly, the audience occasionally gasping in delight. As solo pianist Sam Saunders pounded the last note of an energetic up-and-down keyboard piece he composed, the Jazz Ensemble belted out the first note of Chick Corea's "You're Everything." And the lighting switched just as quickly.

"We have one or two students per group or a conductor of a large ensemble do each transition several times to coordinate the lights and transitions," says Ellen Rowe, a U-M jazz professor and Collage Concert production director. One would have thought it took months to reach that level of seamless musical joy.

The two largest groups—the Symphony Band and the University Symphony Orchestra—each performed four pieces ranging from movie soundtracks to Wagner and Ravel classics. The University Symphony Orchestra's tight, self-assured student players, with outstanding kettle drums and xylophone, outshone the immature Symphony Band, the only disappointment of the night.

During the second half of the concert, the 112 members that make up both the Chamber Choir and the University Choir stood on risers five levels high, bumping up against the wall of organ pipes at the back of Hill's stage. It was stunning. Their tuxedos and flowing black evening gowns, punctuated by open songbooks, complemented the sometimes staccato and sometimes soaring voices.

Dean Aaron Dworkin, in his first year in the department's lead role, strode out onto the stage in his stylish no-lapel jacket and proudly announced that it was unusual for a major research institution to have such an extensive music department and then stated—to much applause—"But this is Michigan!"

—Josie Schneider

"the chair dance"), a signature Bob Fosse work from *Cabaret. 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), EMU Quirk Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 (students with ID, $8) in advance at emutix.com and at the door. 487–2282.*

"Idiot-Syncrasy": Igor and Moreno (University Musical Society). See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Kristin Key: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

14 SATURDAY

★**Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum.** *Jan. 14 & 21.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. *Note:* Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16–18 must submit a permission form. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Jan. 14), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Jan. 21), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free (metered parking at Matthaei). Preregistration required by phone or email. tgriffit@umich.edu, 647–8528.*

Huron Gun Collectors. *Jan. 14 & 15.* About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. *9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $4. (517) 605–0624.*

"Critters Up Close!": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 14 & 15.* Leslie Science & Nature Center staff show live animals. Also, animal-oriented hands-on activities. This month's featured critters are **mammals.** *Note:* Saturday's program includes a midday "Animal Naptime" break. *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 1–4 p.m. (Sun.), AAHOM Michigan Nature Gallery, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

"Ruff": Spinning Dot Theatre. Spinning Dot associate artistic director Kelly Joyce Fielder performs her short, interactive one-woman show about a dog and a stranded sailor's magical adventure. The program begins and ends with activities for audience members. Geared toward kids age 5 & under. *10:30 a.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Tickets $10 (kids, $5). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

★**"Family Art Studio: Making African Masks": UMMA.** Families with kids age 6 & up invited to create art inspired by the current exhibit *Traces: Reconstructing the History of a Chokwe Mask* as well as other masks in the UMMA collection. Local artist Susan Clinthorne is on hand to offer guidance. *11 a.m. & 2 p.m., UMMA Multipurpose Rm., 525 S. State. Free; preregistration required via email (include date & title of program in the subject line and indicate which session and number of adults & children in your group). umma-program-registration@umich.edu; 764–0395.*

"Splash Day": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. A family-oriented afternoon of pool games and contests. Prizes. *2–4 p.m., Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. $5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, $4). 794–6234.*

★**"Mini Clay Figures: Pokémon!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to make figurines of popular Pokémon characters. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Native American Dreamcatchers": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local crafter Dawn Henry shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to make an Ojibwe dreamcatcher using branches, waxed string, feathers, and beads. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Early Music Chamber Music Recital: U-M School of Music.** Program TBA. *2 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Bluegrass Gospel Jam Session.** Mark and Claudia Aills are joined by other local string musicians for a program of bluegrass and country gospel tunes. *6–8:30 p.m., Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. Free, but donations accepted for Dexter Senior Center. 878–1078.*

Glory to God in the highest heaven,
Who unto us his son hath given.
While angels sing with tender mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

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UMMA PROGRAMS

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FREE *Registration required.*
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Saturday, January 14
Making African Masks

Saturday, February 11
Creatures in the Collection

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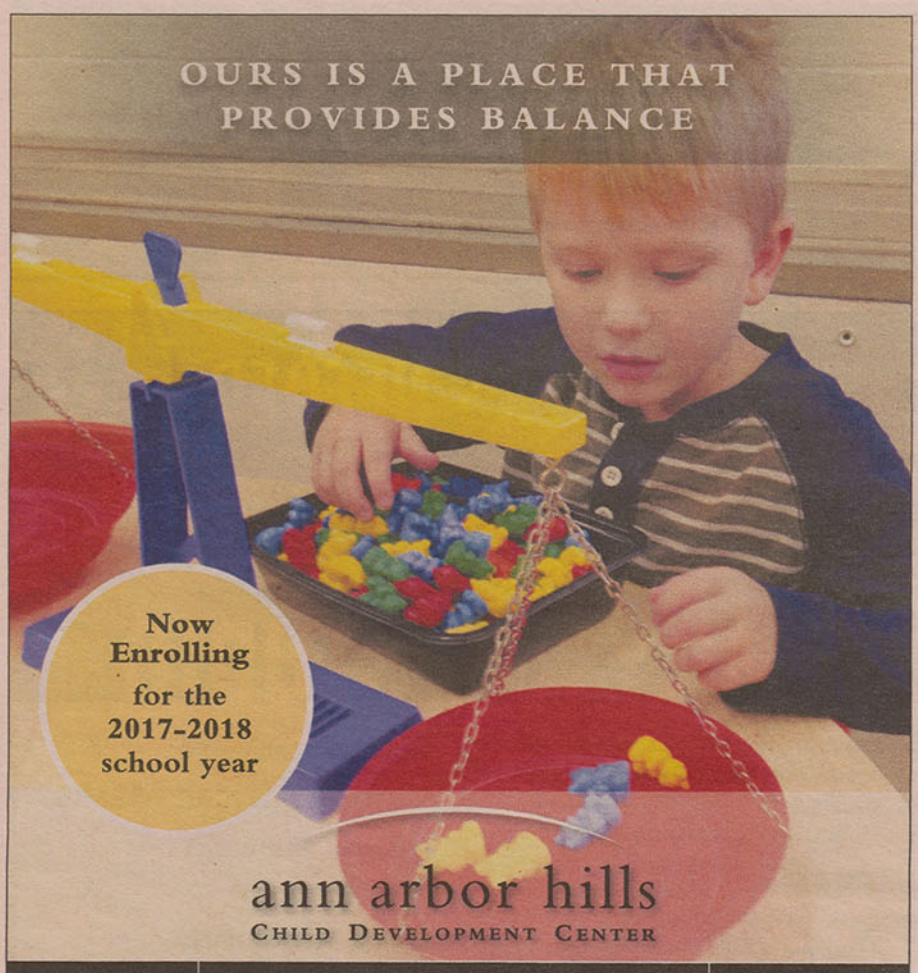
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33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Dinner Ball: National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women. Dinner followed by dancing to music spun by a DJ. Evening attire. Also, a keynote address by bestselling Detroit writer and international speaker Eddie M. Connor, Jr. on **"Moving Forward: Empowering Communities and Shaping Lives."** Proceeds benefit a NANBPW scholarship fund and community service projects. *6–11 p.m., Sheraton Hotel, 3200 Boardwalk. Tickets $60 in advance at aananbpwc.org. 717–7215.*

★"Lantern-Lit Ski & Snowshoe": Waterloo Recreation Area. *Every Sat., Jan. 14–Feb. 18.* All invited to ski or snowshoe (snow conditions permitting) or walk half-mile lantern-lit loops. Fire available to warm up between laps. A few pairs of snowshoes available to borrow. *7–9 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I–94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area, Chelsea. Free. $11 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Louisville (KY) caller Bradley Smith leads dances to live music by the Stout Heart String Band, with young guest musicians TBA. Beginners welcome; all dances taught. Wear loose-fitting clothing and flat non-slip shoes (running shoes OK). Preceded at 6 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *7:30–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., just south of Oak Valley Dr. $11 (members, $10; age 29 & under, $5). 769–2133.*

Annual Collage Concert: U-M School of Music. *See review, p. 65.* An hour of nonstop music in a wide range of contrasting styles. Classical, jazz, big band, vocal, and pop ensembles and soloists segue rapidly from one idiom to the next. Performers are U-M music students. One of the music school's most popular events. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $26 & $32 (students with ID, $12), in advance at tickets.music.umich.edu, the Michigan League Ticket Office, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Mozart Birthday Bash": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra and guest musicians in a program celebrating Mozart's 261st birthday. The program features Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 21 ("Elvira Madigan"), with soloist **Alon Goldstein,** who says the work evokes "a variety of emotions that unfold with divine beauty." The program also includes Mozart's Symphony no. 39 (aka his "perfect piece") and Tchaikovsky's homage to Mozart, Suite no. 4 ("Mozartiana"). Mozart chocolates. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $17–$73 (student, senior, and group discounts available) in advance at a2so.com, by email, and by phone, and (if available) at the door. tickets@a2so.com, 994–4801.*

Dede Alder: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Self-styled "ethereal gypsy music" by this Traverse City singer-songwriter and vibes players who fronts Dede & the Dreamers. She also uses looping, synthesizers, and percussion instruments. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 665–0409.*

"Shifting: 65th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Program. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Idiot-Syncrasy": Igor and Moreno (University Musical Society). See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Kristin Key: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

15 SUNDAY

★"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Effective Communication Strategies to Use with Persons Experiencing Alzheimer's": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Alzheimer's Association Michigan Great Lakes Chapter program coordinator Katie Peil. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. Marlin Whitaker and Miriam Meisler call to live music by Donna Baird and Janet Goldwasser. For kids, accompanied by an adult. Followed by Grange-baked cookies and cocoa. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $12 per family (members, free). 769–1052.*

★"Shrubs and Trees Minus Leaves!": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to learn how to identify woody plants in winter. *2–4 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, north side of Scio Church Rd. west of Wagner. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★"Computer Skills": Ann Arbor District Library. *Jan. 15, 22, & 29.* GameStart staff present hands-on introductions to various computer skills for kids in grades 3–8. *Jan. 15:* **"Minecraft Python Programming."** Learn the fundamentals of programming Minecraft using the Python programming language. *Jan. 22:* **"Unity 2D."** Learn to design a "platformer," a video game with animated sprites and other characters that leap from platform to platform. *Jan. 29:* **"Minecraft Java Programming."** Learn how to build Minecraft improvements using the Java programming language. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★"The Aesthetic Movement in America: Artists of the Photo-Secession": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of photos from the Pictorialism movement that favored soft-focus images that drew upon the conventions of painting. *2–3 p.m., UMMA, meet at the Museum Store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★EMU Honors Band: EMU Music Department. Performance by this ensemble of top high school musicians from around the state, along with EMU music students. Program TBA. *2 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★"Lincoln Center Local: Free Screenings": Ann Arbor District Library. Screening of a May 2013 performance recorded at Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center of a festive all-Mozart program. Performers are pianist Soyeon Kate Lee, violinists Benjamin Beilman and Ani Kavafian, violists Lily Francis and Paul Neubauer, cellist Timothy Eddy, and horn player Radovan Vlatkovic. Program: Piano Trio in B-flat major, the charming Horn Quintet in E-flat major, and the exuberant Viola Quintet in C major. *2–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose rm. (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Expressions of Drama & Rhetoric in the Classical Era": Arborea Trio (Kerrytown Concert House). This chamber ensemble, founded in the Netherlands, is dedicated to performing on period instruments. Program: Mozart's Violin Sonata in C Major, Haydn's Piano Trio in C Major, and Beethoven's Piano Trio in C Minor. With pianist Shin Hwant and baroque cellist Eva Lymenstull (both U-M music grads) and Canadian-American violinist Alison Luthmers Teyssier. *2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Shifting: 65th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Program. See 13 Friday. 2 p.m.

★"Kickoff to Ann Arbor Restaurant Week": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor District Library. Local historians **Jon Milan** and **Gail Offen,** authors of *Iconic Restaurants of Ann Arbor,* discuss local restaurants in celebration of Ann Arbor Restaurant Week, which runs Jan. 15–20. *3–5 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower. Free. a2culinaryhistorians@gmail.com, 794–6250, 327–8301.*

★"People and Places: Exploring the Ernst Pulgram and Frances McSparran Collection": UMMA. Curator Lehti Keelman discusses the current exhibit, *Europe on Paper: The Ernst Pulgram and Frances McSparran Collection,* giving historical context for the works on display. *3–4:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"Sunday Afternoon Poetry with Edward Morin and Bob Brill": Nicola's Books. Readings by these two local poets. Morin is cohost of the Crazy Wisdom Poetry Series and a widely published poet whose books include *Labor Day at Walden Pond,* a collection of poems about the daily experiences of white-collar, middle-class Americans, and *The Red Azalea: Chinese Poetry since the Cultural Revolution,* a collection of Chinese poems he cotranslated with Guizhou (China) University English professor Dennis Ding. Brill is a retired computer programmer and digital artist who now writes fiction and poetry. He's published poems in *Water Music: The Great Lakes State Poetry Anthology* and has a forthcoming collection, *Hello Goodbye.* Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson. Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"Faces of Faith": Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. Local religious leaders from 6 different traditions—Baha'i, Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, and Unitarian Universalism—discuss the personal joys and the public frustrations of being part of their faith tradition. Also, small group discussions. *4–6 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 E. Liberty. $5 suggested donation. 424–1535.*

★"The Art of Impact": Jade Simmons (U-M School of Music MLK Tribute Concert). Lecture-performance by this acclaimed concert pianist, a powerful speaker who got a standing ovation for a TEDx talk she gave. *4:30 p.m., Power Center. Free. 615–3204.*

"2017 Beefsteak Dinner": The Last Word. All-you-can-eat beef dinner. Craft beer. Proceeds benefit the Neutral Zone. *5–8 p.m., The Last Word, 301 W. Huron. $75 ($125 for two). Reservations required. 214–9995, ext. 223.*

Ann Arbor Poetry. Reading by **Ting Gou,** a U-M medical student and award-winning poet who recently published her debut chapbook, *The Other House.* The program begins with a poetry open mike. *7–9*

banjos and beyond

Dom Flemons

The American Songster

It all started at an unheralded event called the Black Banjo Gathering, held in 2005 at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. That four-day conclave of young African American musicians explored the African and African American roots of American vernacular styles—a knife's edge if there ever was one, for the banjo was the icon of the racist minstrel shows of the nineteenth century. The gathering spawned the Grammy-winning Carolina Chocolate Drops trio, who went out to learn from one of the few living black old-time country fiddlers, Joe Thompson, and built on his repertoire in fascinating and often challenging ways. Dom Flemons, who comes to the Ark on January 16, was that band's virtuoso multi-instrumentalist, and his growing solo career has produced traditional music of an unusual sort.

In contrast to the increasingly eclectic music of the Drops' lead vocalist, Rhiannon Giddens, Flemons has cultivated the repertoire of old-time music along with its look and feel. He takes the stage in the classic folk uniform of suspenders and checked flannel shirt, and his 2014 album *Prospect Hill* contained traditional tunes from both black and white traditions as well as jug band music and originals in classic molds. Old-time country music and its distinctive African American twist continue to be present in his work, and he says that his background in percussion has influenced his banjo playing—an African American outlook with deep resonances. A fluent player of the banjo, guitar, harmonica, fife, bones, bass drum, snare drum, and quills, Flemons is well equipped to explore a wide variety of forgotten sounds, and his generously long show takes you to a lot of corners of American music you may not know.

He calls himself simply the American Songster, and he lives up to that ambitious name. But the music he has made since *Prospect Hill* shows hints of new directions. Flemons' website contains this statement of his aims: he "would like to use the traditional forms of music he has heard and immersed himself in over the years to create new soundscapes that generate interest in old-time folk music. Focusing very much on creating music that is rooted in history but taking a contemporary approach, Dom hopes to reexamine what traditional music can become."

That aim showed up on *Prospect Hill* with a novel original called "Grotto Beat" that took off from the Southern African American fife-and-drum genre (which has roots as far back as the Revolutionary War) but added rap-like spoken-word elements to it. A recent EP, *What Got Over,* shows further experiments in the same vein; the title track adds electric guitar to contemporary but blues-like vocal lines ("You tried to murder my soul, but you only lost me") and a big bass drum.

Lots of people are doing old-time music right now, of various kinds, and Flemons does it all well. But he also seems to be trying to create music that's rooted in American tradition in whole new ways. And, given the impressive history of this unique musician, that's an exciting prospect indeed.

—James M. Manheim

p.m. (sign-up begins at 6:30 p.m.), Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. $5 suggested donation. facebook.com/AnnArborPoetry

"No Man's Land": National Theatre Live in HD (University Musical Society). Live broadcast of the National Theatre (London) production of Harold Pinter's darkly comic drama about a wealthy aging writer drinking into the night with another writer in his stately home. As the pair become increasingly inebriated, the lively conversation soon turns into a revealing power game. "*No Man's Land* is both desolate and funny and conveys, without peddling any message, the never-ending contrast between the exuberance of memory and the imminence of extinction," says a *Guardian* review. Stars Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $22 (Michigan Theater members & UMS donors & subscribers, $18) in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

16 MONDAY
(MLK DAY) See Then & Now, p. 29.

★"Annual Children & Youth Program": U-M MLK Symposium. Parents can drop off kids in grades K–12 for a day of stories, discussions, skits, musical performances, and activities centered on Martin Luther King Jr. Lunch provided. Kids age 4 & under welcome if accompanied by an adult. *8:30 a.m.–3 p.m., U-M Modern Languages Bldg., 812 E. Washington. Free. Preregistration recommended before Jan. 11 at sites.google.com/a/umich.edu/mlk/. 323–4237, 647–1637.*

★"Preschool ArtStart": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). Siblings welcome. *10–10:30 a.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. Two different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***Larry Cat in Space*** (12:30 p.m.) features a playful cartoon about an inquisitive cat that learns more than it wanted to know about life in space when it stows away on a shuttle to be with its owner, a scientist on her way to the Moon. *Various times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

★"The Liberian Ebola Epidemic: Sounds of War and Sounds of Change": U-M Health Sciences. Lecture by Action Contre la Faim (Liberia) Ebola emergency-response program manager Mosoka Fallah. *Noon–2 p.m., U-M Hospital Dow Auditorium (2nd floor), 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. Free. 763–5990.*

★Carillon Concert: U-M MLK Symposium. U-M carillonist **Tiffany Ng** and carillon students perform works by African American composers, including U-M alum Augustus O. Hill. The program also includes the world premiere of a commissioned work by Wilbert Roget II, an award-winning composer for the film and video game industries. *Noon, Burton Tower belfry (take elevator to 8th floor and walk up two flights of stairs to the 10th floor observation deck). Free. 615–3204.*

★MLK Day of Service: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. All invited to help remove invasive shrubs from **Black Pond Woods Nature Area.** Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes; tools and know-how provided. Snacks. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. *1–3 p.m., meet at the park entrance on Tibbits Ct. off Brookside from Pontiac Tr. Free. 996–3266.*

★Biakuye Percussion Group: Ann Arbor District Library. Traditional African music and dance by this acclaimed Detroit-based ensemble of Ghanaian and

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Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights. The world-renowned Israeli concert pianist **Alon Goldstein,** who is featured in the AASO Mozart concert on January 14 (see listing), is joined by AASO artistic director Arie Lipsky on cello and violinist Danielle Belen for performances of Beethoven's Piano Trio in D major ("Ghost") and Dvorák's Piano Trio No. 4 ("Dumky Trio"). Preceded at 1 p.m. with dessert and socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 in advance at a2so.org and at the door. 971–0990.*

★**"One Drop of Love": U-M Library/U-M MLK Symposium.** Award-winning L.A.-based actor **Fanshen Cox DiGiovanni** performs her one-woman show—part memoir, part history—that incorporates film, photographs, and animation to tell the story of how the notion of race came to be in the U.S. and how it affects our most intimate relationships. The show was produced by Matt Damon and Ben Affleck, whom she grew up with. *2–4:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Free. 764–7522.*

★**"Circle of Unity": U-M MLK Symposium.** All invited to listen to or join impromptu performances of songs and spoken word pieces inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. Also, performances by local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly and Detroit singer-guitarist Julie Beutel. Hot chocolate. *3–4:30 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. (586) 322–9414.*

★**"What They Did Not Want Martin Talking About: MLK's Thoughts and Teachings on the Dangers of War and Militarism": Veterans for Peace/U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk by Veterans for Peace representatives William Shea and Bob Krzewinski. *3–4:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pond Rm., 530 S. State. Free. 662–0818.*

★**"Citizen: An American Lyric": U-M Institute for the Humanities/Institute for Social Research.** Jamaican-born poet **Claudia Rankine,** a 2016 MacArthur "Genius" Award recipient, discusses her celebrated 2014 book, a genre-bending blend of poetry and criticism exploring racism in American life. Q&A. Rankine also gives the **keynote address** at 10 a.m. on Jan. 17 for "A Cross Disciplinary Discussion on American Racism" (ISR, 426 Thompson, rm. 1430). *4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *6:45–9 p.m., Pittsfield Village Community Bldg., 2220 Pittsfield Blvd. (park on the street, or in the south lot). Free to visitors (annual dues for those who join). 994–4385.*

★**"Sewing Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 16 & 30.* All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to get basic sewing help with their unfinished projects or learn how to use the AADL sewing machines. Basic sewing instruction available. All welcome to bring their own sewing machine. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Homemade Mint Sugar Scrub": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a refreshing sugar-based mint skin care product. *7–8 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Maker Works": Ann Arbor Women Artists.** Maker Works co-owner Tom Root discusses the tools available to artists, engineers, and hobbyists in their maker space on Plaza Drive. *7 p.m., AAWA Headquarters, 4844 Jackson Rd. ste. 100. Free. annarborwomenartists@gmail.com*

★**"Wildflowers of Michigan Nature Association Sanctuaries": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talk by Michigan Nature Association staffer Rachel Maranto. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647–7600.*

17 TUESDAY

★**"A Family of Reformers: The Weld-Grimké Manuscript Collection": U-M Clements Library.** U-M manuscripts curator Cheney Schopieray and U-M School of Information grad student Tessa Wakefield discuss the Clements Library's collection of papers from renowned abolitionists Angelina Grimké, her sister Sarah Grimké, and Angelina's husband Theodore Weld, as well as Wakefield's efforts to make the papers available for research. *4 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library, enter from the Diag. Free. Preregistration requested at myumi.ch/L38wV. 764–5862.*

★**Meredith Monk: U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series.** This award-winning experimental composer-vocalist, choreographer, and filmmaker discusses her work. She performs at the Power Center Jan. 20 (see listing). *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668–8463.*

★**Kelly Link: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Reading by this Northampton (MA) short story writer, author of the cult-favorite story collection *Stranger Things Happen.* Her 2015 collection *Get in Trouble* is comprised of fantastical, darkly humorous stories. "These are not so much small fictions as windows onto entire worlds," says writer Sarah Waters. "This is a brilliant, giddying read." Link also discusses her work on Jan. 19 (see listing). *6 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330.*

"12th Annual African American Foodways Dinner: Biscuits for Your Outside Man": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young is joined by **Dom Flemons,** a founding member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops who performed at the Ark last night (see Nightspots listing), to host a dinner featuring dishes celebrated in the blues, from the BBQ that Drink Small praises in his "Living in a BBQ World" to buttery biscuits that Algia Mae Hinton sings about in "Biscuits for Your Outside Man." A portion of the proceeds benefit the Music Makers Relief Foundation which provides financial support to Southern working-class musicians. *6:30 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $55 (beverages not included). $95 includes a pre-dinner cocktail reception at 6 p.m. Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.*

★**Polka Jam Session.** All accordion players and other musicians invited to play polkas and waltzes and other ethnic and old-time music. *7–9 p.m., American Legion Post 268, 44 Wabash St. (south off Main), Milan. Free. 529–3903.*

★**"Trivia Tuesday": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to come with a team of 4 players to compete in a trivia contest. Prizes. *7–8 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch Sweetwaters, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Feminist Book Club: Literati Bookstore.** All invited to discuss ***Mothers, Tell Your Daughters,*** Bonnie Jo Campbell's short story collection that features ferocious mothers and scrappy daughters, working-class protagonists who are at once vulnerable, wise, cruel, and funny. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Budgeting & Debt Reduction: Your Money Game Plan": Ann Arbor District Library "Adulting 101" Series.** Talk by U-M Credit Union financial education specialist Kathryn Greiner, a popular longtime local credit and budgeting counselor. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose rm. (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Electronic Music Production: Maschine Jam": Ann Arbor District Library.** Veteran Detroit sound designer and dance music DJ Mike Huckaby introduces adults and teens in grade 6 & up to making electronic music using the Native Instruments Maschine Jam step sequencer (Jan. 17), Ableton Live music production software (Jan. 24), and Reaktor production software (Jan. 31). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. Arrive early; space limited. 327–8301.*

★**"Secrets of Natural Weight Loss: Raw Food": Ann Arbor District Library/People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Using Herbs for Nourishment: Why You Can Skip Cleansing, Purifying, and Fasting": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994–4589.*

★**Nicholas Petrie: Nicola's Books.** This U-M Residential College grad reads from ***Burning Bright,*** the 2nd in his series about Iraq and Afghanistan vet Peter Ash, who this time stumbles upon a woman on the run while he's on vacation in the California redwood forests. When he scrambles up a tree to escape a grizzly, he notices a climbing rope that leads to the woman, an investigative journalist who has narrowly escaped a kidnapping. Signing. Preceded at 6 p.m. by **The Book Club,** a small group discussion of the book with Petrie (reservations and book purchase required). *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *Jan. 17 & 31. Jan. 17:* A panel of expert photographers critique projections of club members' previously submitted images. *Jan. 31:* Club member Dietmar Haenchen, an experienced nature and travel photographer, presents **"Photographing Birds in Flight: Techniques & Equipment."** Also, club members show their recent digital images (Jan. 17) & prints (Jan. 31) on various topics, including this month's assignment, **"Bad Weather."** *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School media center (Jan. 17), 1655 Newport, & Wines Elementary School auditorium (Jan. 31), 1701 Newport. Free. 327–4781.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. See 3 Tuesday. Tonight's topic TBA. 8 p.m.

performance art

Meredith Monk

On Behalf of Nature

JULIETA CERVANTES

With her latest performance work, Meredith Monk says she sought to create "space for imagination and a fluid, perceptual field that could expand awareness of what we are in danger of losing." What resulted is *On Behalf of Nature,* "a meditation on our intimate connection to nature, its inner structures, the fragility of its ecology and our interdependence." Inspired by poet and naturalist Gary Snyder, Monk has chosen to serve as a spokesperson for nonhuman entities: plants, animals, minerals, air, water, and, in her feature solo piece *Water/Sky Rant,* the disconcerting absence of water during drought.

Simple, luminous staging seems to capture colors and reflections from the entire circumference of the horizon while she and her troupe engage in dialogue with the atmosphere and the earth's magnetic field. Voices share the ground with whistles, woodwinds, birdcalls, bells, French horn, harp, *cuíca* (a Brazilian friction drum), keyboards, and tuned percussion. Light-years beyond conventional notions of entertainment, these are timeless, wordless messages, subliminal and sublime. Monk regards performance as a spiritual discipline, similar in ways to meditative sitting practice, combining pinpoint focus with open-heartedness.

In a sense, *On Behalf of Nature* has been fifty years in the making. Monk's progress as an innovative modern dancer took an unusual turn in 1965 when she realized that the voice is a language unto itself and that time could be used as a sculptural element. Monk's performance rituals are carefully conceived and intensively planned. Her long-established vocabulary of wordless vocal technique includes clicking, whispering, cooing, crowing, cawing, cheeping, chattering, cackling, whooping, howling, and high ululation. Astonishing virtuosity is blended with childlike wonderment.

Voices run in the family. Monk's maternal great-grandfather served as cantor in a Russian synagogue. His son Joseph B. Zellman was an operatic bass-baritone who married American concert pianist Rose Kornicker and opened a conservatory. In 1900 the duo recorded a series of phonograph cylinders for Thomas Edison. Monk's mother, professionally billed as Audrey Marsh, found work in broadcast studios as a singer of ballads, pop tunes, and advertising jingles for Muriel Cigars, Blue Bonnet Margarine, and Schaefer Beer. Monk recalls learning how to read music before she could read words.

Beginning at the age of three she spent several years participating in Dalcroze Eurhythmics workshops, mingling music and movement to improve her coordination. Those sessions established a path for her to grow into a highly disciplined and individualistic dancer fascinated by what she calls "the delicate fluid membrane between speech and music." The voice, she says, is her footprint, her blood, her weather report, her playground, earthquake, compass, lifeline, and beacon. It is her soul's messenger.

The University Musical Society brings Meredith Monk and her Vocal Ensemble to town to perform *On Behalf of Nature* on Friday, January 20.

—arwulf arwulf

18 WEDNESDAY

"Nature Playgroup": Leslie Science & Nature Center. All kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited for a mix of guided and self-guided outdoor activities. *10–11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $4 (members, $3) per child. 997–1553.*

★**"An Afternoon with Junot Díaz": U-M Institute for Social Research MLK Lecture.** Talk by this MacArthur "Genius," author of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize–winning novel, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao,* and cofounder of Voices of Our Nation Workshops for writers of color. *Noon–2 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 763–9989.*

★**"Sustainability in Washtenaw County": AAUW-Ann Arbor.** Talk by local sustainability expert Noreen DeYoung. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch ($15; reservations required). *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. (844) 973–6287.*

★**"Immigrants into 'Ethnic' Americans: Negotiating Race, Language, Religion, and Belongings": U-M Armenian Studies Program.** Talk by U-M Near Eastern studies lecturer Vahe Sahakyan. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763–0622.*

★**"Toward an Intellectual History of Black Women": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** U-M Afroamerican and African studies professors Martha Jones, Megan Sweeney, and Tiya Miles discuss this new collection of essays edited by Jones. *4:10–5:30 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–9537.*

★**"Copy": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Lecture by Joan Linder and Paul Vanouse, both artists who employ the art of copying in their work. An exhibit of Linder's drawings, *Atomic Highways and Byways,* opens at the UMMA on Jan. 19 (see Galleries). *5 p.m., UMMA. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Origami": Ann Arbor District Library.** Internationally known local origami artist Beth Johnson discusses and shows participants how to do this popular Japanese paper-folding craft. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices. Q&A. Also, socializing. *7–9:30 p.m., Deep Spring Center, 704 Airport Blvd. (west off S. State north of Ellsworth). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Educating Community Members About Health Insurance Options": Ann Arbor District Library.** Presentation by Washtenaw Health Initiative and U-M Health Policy Student Association representatives. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Iconic Restaurants of Ann Arbor": Literati Bookstore.** Local historians **Jon Milan** and **Gail Offen** discuss their new book. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Exploring the Brazilian Pantanal": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by WAS member Cathy Theisen. The Pantanal is the largest wetland in the world, home to 656 bird species and many impressive mammals. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

"Battle of the Sexes Comedy Showdown": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Two male and 2 female stand-up comics TBA battle to determine which sex is funnier. Hosted by area comic Meldon Williams. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $10 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

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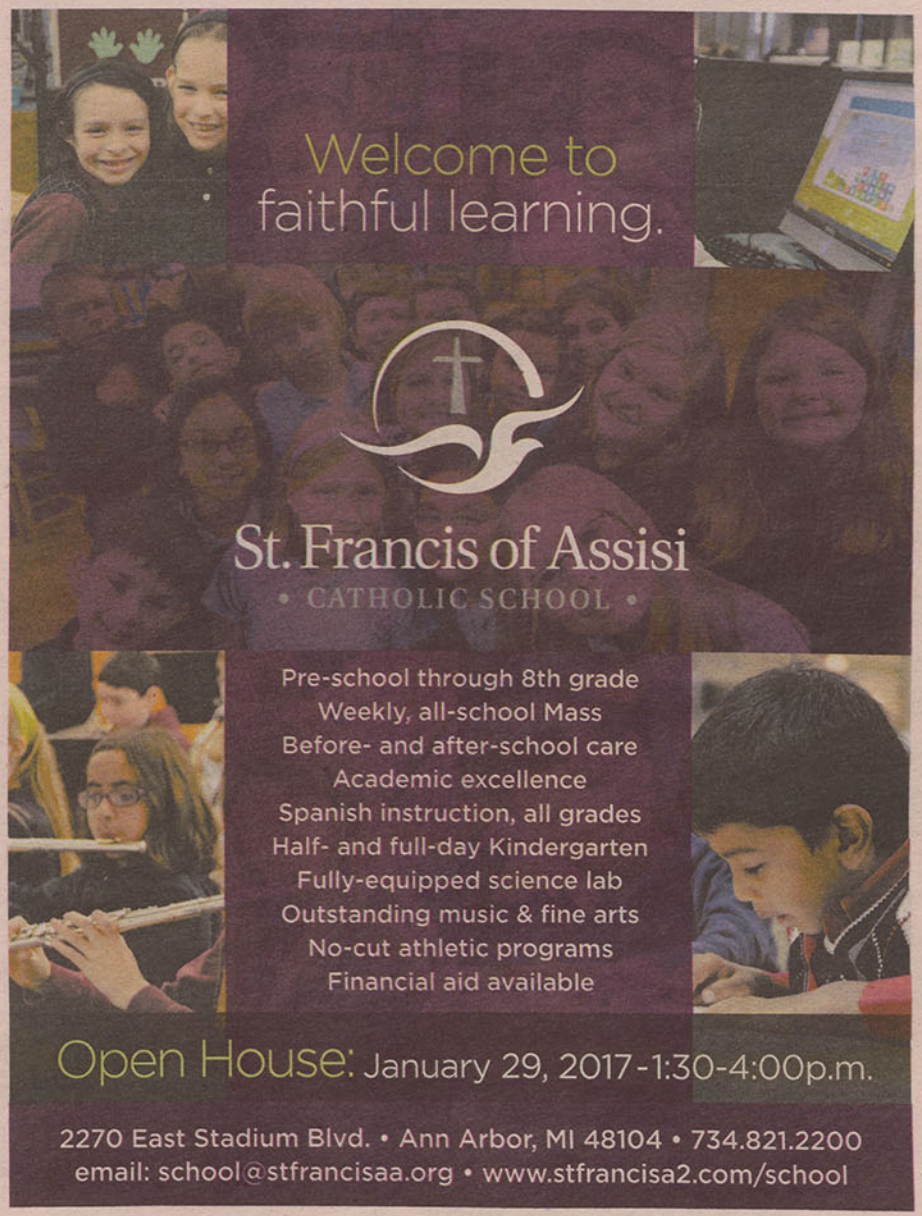

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19 THURSDAY

★**"Toddler Hike: North Woods Wildlife": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads toddlers, accompanied by a caregiver, on a hike to look for signs of animal life. *10–11 a.m., County Farm Park. Free; preregistration required at parks.ewashtenaw.org (registration #821003, section B). 971–6337, ext. 335.*

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. *Jan. 19 & 21.* All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited for a program of stories and nature-based activities exploring the world of **"Terrific Trees."** *10–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $4 per child. 997–1533.*

"Owl's Winter": Wild Swan Theater. *Jan. 19–21.* This award-winning local children's theater presents its adaptation of Arnold Lobel's *Owl at Home.* Owl encounters strange bumps at the foot of his bed, is awakened by a noisy cricket, and wonders why the moon seems to follow him when he's out for a stroll. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Suitable for kids in grades Pre-K to 2. *10 a.m. (Jan. 19 & 20), 12:30 p.m. (Jan. 20), & 11 a.m. (Jan. 21), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (youth and seniors, $10; $3 lap passes available for kids age 1 & under) in advance at wildswantheater.org and by phone, and at the door. 995–0530.*

★**International Neighbors.** All area women invited to learn **"Folk Dances around the World,"** including traditional dances from Argentina, Colombia, India, Ireland, Iran, Israel, Mexico, Japan and many other countries, all choreographed to a Zumba style dance party. Socializing, refreshments. Child care available for kids 5 & under. *1–2:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. (313) 815–0413.*

★**"Aponte's Vision: Toward Hemispheric Histories of Black Antislavery": U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies.** Lecture by New York University history professor Ada Ferrer. *4–6 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615–7400.*

★**"Joe Sacco: Galvanizing New Audiences Through Social Justice Comics": U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series.** Talk by this Maltese American cartoonist and journalist who's best known for his graphic historical novel *Palestine* and *Footnotes in Gaza,* a collection of oral histories from elderly Palestinians who witnessed a mass murder in the 1956 Suez War. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668–8463.*

★**"A Conversation with Kelly Link": U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** This Northampton (MA) short story writer discusses her work with novelist and U-M English professor **Claire Vaye Watkins.** Link also gives a reading Jan. 17 (see listing). *5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330.*

★**Nerd Nite Ann Arbor: Ann Arbor District Library.** Popular monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at annarbor.nerdnite.com) who give fun yet informative talks, 18–21 minutes long, about topics that interest them, from nanoparticles to the science of the Simpsons and the genealogy of Godzilla. *7–9 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"The Bioarchaeology of the Human Skeletal Remains from the Philistine Cemetery at Ashkelon": Michigan Archaeological Society.** Lecture by EMU sociology, anthropology, and criminology lecturer Sherry Fox. *7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. Free. 764–9304.*

Prague Philharmonia: University Musical Society. Founded in 1994, this orchestra is known for its sparkling passion. Tonight they perform Dvorak's Violin Concerto in A Minor with violin virtuoso **Sarah Chang,** who, at the age of 8, was called "the most wonderful, perfect, ideal violinist" by the late violinist Yehudi Menuhin. They also perform Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto no. 1 in G Minor with pianist **Andrew Von Oeyen,** who "leaves you convinced he can do absolutely anything he likes with a keyboard," says a *Chicago Tribune* review. The program also includes Smetana's "Die Moldau" from *Má vlast* and Dvorak's Symphony no. 8 in G Major. *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $18–$90 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Jan. 19–22.* Melissa Freilich directs local actors in Sarah Ruhl's 2010 Tony-nominated comedy about Victorian gender roles and female sexuality. A physician finds success when he begins to treat his female patients' "hysteria" with the recently invented vibrator, but when his young wife breaks into his office to try the device for herself, erotic and emotional chaos erupts. Cast: Liana Abela, Ellen Blanchard, Greg Kovacs, Maegan Murphy, Amanda Photenhauer, and Rob Roy. *7:30 p.m. (Jan. 19), 8 p.m. (Jan. 20 & 21), & 2 p.m. (Jan. 22), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $22 (seniors age 60 & over, $20; Thurs., $17; students, $11 for any performance) in advance at a2ct.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 971–2228.*

★**Yarn/Wire: U-M School of Music.** Performance by this M-Prize finalist, an energetic NYC-based piano and percussion quartet that plays adventurous contemporary music. *8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

Stephen Boegehold's Way of Dreams Band: Kerrytown Concert House. Detroit drummer and composer Boegehold leads his sextet in jazz inspired by the expansiveness of dreams. With bassist Ben Rolston, saxophonists Andrew Bishop and Molly Jones, and guitarist Kirsten Carey. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., Jan. 19–Mar. 4.* Guy Sanville directs local actors in the world premiere of EMU football assistant coach (and U-M football player) Brian Letscher's dark comedy about a brilliant young man struggling with his father's sudden death and the revelation that his parents' marriage wasn't everything he was led to believe. The play explores the implications and possible ramifications of artificial intelligence and science in general. Cast: David Bendena, Sarab Kamoo, Wayne David Parker, Jim Porterfield. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $30 (Wed.), $27 (Thurs.), $41 (Fri. eve. & weekend matinees), $46 (Sat. eve.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org and by phone, and (if available) at the door. $5–$10 discounts available for the first week of previews. 433–7673.*

Ben Creed: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 19–21.* NYC monologist known for his high-energy, dynamic performing style and his quick-witted, wiseguy perspectives on a variety of topics. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $12 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Lost in London Live": Fathom Events. Academy Award–nominated actor **Woody Harrelson** directs and stars in this film, shot and broadcast live, loosely based on a crazy night full of real-life events. The action follows Harrelson, playing himself, as he struggles to get home to his family. Run-ins with royalty, old friends, and the law conspire to keep him from succeeding. Also stars Owen Wilson and Willie Nelson. *9 p.m., Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Rave (4100 Carpenter). Tickets $14 in advance at fathomevents.com/event/lost-in-london. 623–7469 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Rave).*

20 FRIDAY

"Owl's Winter": Wild Swan Theater. See 19 Thursday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★**"Understanding the Absence of War": U-M Anthropology Department Rappaport Lecture Series.** U-M anthropology professor Mike McGovern presents the 1st in a series of 3 monthly lectures on "A Socialist Peace? Explaining the Absence of War in an African Country." *3–5 p.m., Rackham Assembly Hall (4th floor). Free. 764–7274.*

★**"Fix-It Friday": Maker Works.** All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, and more. Maker Works members and staff will be on hand to help fix things and offer advice. (Note: Repairs are not guaranteed.) *4–6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. 222–4911.*

★**"Justice and Tolerance in Islamic Thought: Maududi's Al-Jihad fil Islam": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** King's College (London) politics professor Humeira Iqtidar discusses the work of 20th-century Islamist philosopher Maududi. *4–6 p.m., 1636 SSWB/International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 615–4059.*

★**"Friends and Music at Calvary": Calvary Presbyterian Church.** All adults and teens with special needs invited for singing, dancing, and activities. Caregivers welcome. Food. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2727 Fernwood. Free. Preregistration requested. specialneeds@calvarya2.com, 971–3121.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. MSU. *6:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State. Ticket price TBA at stubhub.com/michigan-wolverines-hockey-tickets. 764–0247.*

★**"Penguin Awareness Day": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades preK–5 invited to do a penguin-related craft or coloring activity. *7–8 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

Harlem Globetrotters: EMU Convocation Center. The Globetrotters, currently celebrating their 91st

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Emergent Effect* (Jan. 13–28). Works in various media curated by Ypsi Alloy Studios cofounders Ilana Houten, Elize Jekabson, and Jessica Tenbusch. Reception Jan. 13, 6–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 994–8004.

Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. (Jan. 3–Feb. 2). Artwork in various media by City Club members. Reception Jan. 19, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 662–3279.

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. *Coloring with the Masters* (Jan. 17–Feb. 27 in the multipurpose rm.). Quilts by members of the local Aussome Study Group based on artwork by Mary Ann Beckwith, Robbie Loudermilk, Peter Max, George Rodrigue, Dr. Seuss, Tiffany, and Ugo Nespolo. *RCAA—Celebrating 100 Years* (Jan. 17–Feb. 27 in the lower level display cases). Exhibit showcasing the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor's centenary. *2017 AIA Honors Awards Exhibit* (Jan. 17–Feb. 27 in the 3rd floor exhibit space). Photo panels illustrating 25 projects by local American Institute of Architects members. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Annual Juried Student Show* (Jan. 11–Feb. 2). Works in various media by EMU art students. Reception Jan. 18, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Faculty Exhibition* (Jan. 16–Feb. 10). Works in various media by EMU art professors. Reception Jan. 25, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Nancy Feldkamp* (Dec. 30–Jan. 29). Watercolor paintings of rural landscapes by this Michigan artist. Reception Jan. 12, 5–7 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. *Redefining Identity* (Jan. 9–21). Works in various media by U-M art & design students that reject, reveal, or debunks society's definitions of identity. Reception Jan. 16, 7–8 p.m. *Design & Production Portfolio Review* (Jan. 30–Feb. 10). Works by advanced design and production students that showcase what happens behind the scenes of U-M theater productions. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (561) 376–5536 (*Redefining Identity*). 615–3204 (*Design & Production*).

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. *The Leaders and the Rest: Boundaries and Belonging at the University of Michigan* (Jan. 4–Feb. 24 in rm. 100). Exhibit that showcases key moments of student expression, politics, and culture throughout U-M history. *The Student Experience: Flappers, Mappers, and the Fight for Equality on Campus* (Jan. 16–May 12 in the Clark Library, 2nd floor). Exhibit of 1920s maps of Ann Arbor and information about U-M alums who greatly influenced the field of cartography. Also, protest posters from the U-M Special Collections library that illustrate the rise of diversity and fight for equality on the U-M campus. Reception Jan. 19, 4–7 p.m. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. 647–5407 (*The Leaders*). 764–0410 (*The Student Experience*).

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *Nothing By Conquest* (Jan. 9–Feb. 17 in the Osterman Common Room). Large-scale abstract paintings by recent U-M art & design grad Nicholas Williams. Reception Jan. 11, 4 p.m. *Atomic Highways and Byways* (Jan. 19–Mar. 10). Works by artist Joan Linder, who is best known for her labor-intensive drawings that transform mundane subjects into conceptually rich images. The works in this exhibit are focused on toxic dumping sites near Willow Run airport. Reception Jan. 18, 6 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Michigan Union, 530 S. State. *First Class* (Jan. 23–Feb. 23 and Apr. 1–9 in the Willis Ward Art Lounge). Profiles of U-M's first six students in Ann Arbor and the two faculty members who taught them. In conjunction with the U-M Bicentennial celebration. 763–2386.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *In Focus: Frank Stella* (Jan. 17–Apr. 23). 3 prints by this modern American artist, best known for his signature 1960s geometric style. Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 764–0395.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *16 + 16* (Jan. 3–Feb. 4). Paintings, sculpture, photography, jewelry, fiber art, books, cards, glass, ceramics, and more by 15 of WSG's owner/artists and their invited guests. Reception Jan. 2, 7 p.m. Tues.–Thurs. noon–6 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

anniversary, bring their legendary blend of basketball wizardry and antic comedy to EMU for an exhibition game. *7 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. $20–$262 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center (emutix.com) and at the door. 487–2282. 487–2282.*

★"Poems of Spirit and Nature Together": Michigan Friends Center. U-M natural resources adjunct professor Richard Tucker leads a discussion of poems by Mary Oliver, Wendell Berry, Gary Snyder, and other writers whose work finds spiritual renewal in nature. All invited to bring favorite poems. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Michigan Friends Center, 7748 Clarks Lake Rd. (off Waterloo Rd. west of M–52), Chelsea. Free; donations welcome. 475–1892.*

"Family Mew-vie Night": Huron Valley Humane Society. Screening of *Secret Life of Pets,* the 2016 animated film about a terrier whose life is upended when his owner takes in a stray. Also, a chance to snuggle with adoptable cats. Popcorn, juice, and water. Kids must be accompanied by an adult (at least 1 for every 3 kids). Bring pillows, sleeping bags, and blankets, if you wish. *7–9 p.m., Tiny Lions Center, 5245 Jackson Rd. (ste. A1). $7. 661–3575.*

"FutureStars 2017": Pioneer High School. *Jan. 20, 21, & 28 (different programs).* AAPS high school students perform 4 different talent shows. The judges and the audience determine the winners, who compete in the Jan. 28 finale. This is a very popular show. *Note:* The 9:30 p.m. shows are open only to students. Tonight: **"Song and Dance"** (7 p.m.) & **"Love You/Hate You"** (9:30 p.m.). *7 & 9:30 p.m. (Jan. 20 & 21) & 7:30 p.m. (Jan. 28), PHS Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets $10 on Jan. 20 & 21 & $15 (students, seniors age 65 & over, $10) on Jan. 28 in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. ptguild.org, 994–2191.*

Production TBA: Theatre Nova. *Every Thurs.–Sun., beginning Jan. 20. 7 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Tickets (if available) are $20 or pay what you can, in advance at theatrenova.org and at the door. Members ($75 annual donation) receive priority access to all shows. 635–8450.*

"You're a Wanderer Just Like Me": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Recital by U-M flute professor **Amy Porter,** who is accompanied by fellow U-M music faculty and other local musicians. The program is a collage that includes Bach's Prelude to Cello Suite V with cellist Viktor Huls, a work TBA for alto flute, a vocal work performed with fellow parishioner Jonathan Gardner, and U-M dance department composer Stephen Rush's "Taming the Wild Ox," a piece based on Zen meditation and improvisation. A fundraiser to help pay for the building and installation of a new organ for the church. *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. $20 in advance & at the door.*

"Come On In; Come On Out—Safe and Sound with Out Loud": Out Loud Chorus. *Jan. 20 & 21.* Paul Haebig directs this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in a program of songs exploring the ideas of safety and finding a home, including "Come to My Garden," "Rather Be," "Somewhere Only We Know," "Earth Song," "Would You Harbor Me," and more. *8 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $15 (students, $12; unemployed people & kids under 4, free) in advance at olconline.org & Common Language Books and from Out Loud members, $18 at the door. 265–0740. 973–3450.*

Robbie Fulks: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Talented Chicago-based alt-country singer-songwriter whose music is an offbeat yet affecting blend of traditional country, early rock 'n' roll, and new wave 80s pop. "In his best moments, Fulks sounds like the wiseass bastard son of Roger Miller," says *Rolling Stone,* and the *New York Times* describes his lyrical sensibility as "sort of country meets David Lynch." Fulks has a new CD, *Upland Stories,* a collection of story songs based in the upland areas of Virginia and North Carolina where he grew up, including a couple songs written from the perspective of journalist James Agee during his seminal 1936 visit to the Depression-era South. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Warm Up Winter with Beaver Island's Best": Kerrytown Concert House. Performances by jazz and classical musicians who have performed at the Baroque on Beaver Island Festival and the Beaver Island Jazz Weekend. Musicians include pianist Terry Lower, bassist Paul Keller, drummer Pete Siers, and others TBA. Proceeds benefit the Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20–$35 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"On Behalf of Nature": Meredith Monk (University Musical Society). *See review p. 69.* This award-winning experimental composer-vocalist, choreographer, and filmmaker is joined by her acclaimed **Vocal Ensemble** in her new music-theater work, a poetic meditation on our intimate connection to the natural world and the fragility of its ecology. Drawing inspiration from climate change writers and researchers, *On Behalf of Nature* is "a rapturous new work," says a *Los Angeles Times* review. "Some of the finest music Monk has yet written." Preceded at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby by a talk on the program and followed by a Q&A with the artists. *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $26–$44 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Spring Awakening": Dexter Community Players. *Jan. 20–22 & 27–29.* Keshia Daisy Oliver directs local actors in Stephen Sater and Duncan Sheik's new musical based on Frank Wedekind's 1891 drama about a group of German adolescents whose sexual awakening is warped and thwarted by bourgeois adult society. The score is a mix of alt-rock and folk-rock. Cast: Matthew Wallace, Laura Chodoroff, Christopher Joseph, Jessica Miorelli, Emma Clayton, George Micah Woods, Elliot Berg, Joseph Straub, Julia Janda, Kyra Pazan, Brandon Cave, and Angela Elowsky. *8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sun.), Copeland Auditorium, 7714 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. Tickets $20 in advance at dcp.yapsody.com. dextercommunityplayers.org, 726–0355.*

"In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Ben Creed: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

21 SATURDAY

7th Annual Ann Arbor City Dodgeball Tournament: Skyline High School Crew Team Fundraiser. All adults and kids in 6th grade and above invited to form co-ed teams of 7–10 players to compete in round-robin and elimination tournaments. Prizes for top teams in each of 3 divisions (youth in grades 6–8, high school, and open adult), and awards for best costume in each division. All teams in high school and adult divisions must start at least 2 females. Food & beverage concessions. *8–10 a.m. (youth), 10:45 a.m.–1:45 p.m. (high school), & 2:30–5:30 p.m. (adult), Skyline, 2552 N. Maple Rd. $100 per team. Preregistration for teams (limited to 20 middle school, 30 high school & adult teams) required by 6 p.m. on Jan. 20 at annarbordodgeball.com. dodgeball@skylinecrew.com*

★"Annual Winter Stonefly Search": Huron River Watershed Council. All invited to join a watershed-wide hunt for these elusive river insects, which are active only in winter when fish are sluggish. Wear warm clothes. (You will not go into the water.) Children must be accompanied by an adult. *9 a.m.–1 p.m. and 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. (choose one session), begin at the NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. Preregistration required by Jan. 17 at hrwc.org/volunteer/stonefly. jfrenzel@hrwc.org; 769–5123, ext. 600.*

★"Citizen Pruner": Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division. NAP staff show how to prune young trees for shape and overall health. Aimed especially at those interested in participating in a volunteer program for the long-term upkeep of city trees. *9 a.m.–1 p.m., Wheeler Service Center, 4251 Stone School Rd. Free. Space limited; preregistration required by Jan. 20 to tstephens@a2gov.org. 794–6627.*

★Death Café. All invited to join a frank conversation about death led by participants. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush. Tea & cake served. *10 a.m.–noon, Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395–9660.*

★"Plastics Recycling & Looking out for Nature": Ecology Center of Ann Arbor. All invited to learn about different plastics and why and how they are separated at the MRF. Kids can try their hand at hand sorting on a portable conveyor belt. Participants also learn to transform plastic containers into winter feeders and shelters for backyard wildlife, or to use alternatives to plastic to make compostable ones. *10 a.m.–noon, Wheeler Service Center, 4251 Stone School Rd. Free. 369–9272.*

★"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. KinderRock (Saline) teacher Melissa Hudson leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a dancing program. *10–10:40 a.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

"Pop-Up Makerspace": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 21 & 22.* All invited to try a hands-on engineering activity. This month's challenge: **"Spheres and Slides."** *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & noon–4 p.m. (Sun.), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

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★**"Wild Skull Mystery": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Kelsey Bolda shows kids ages 7–12 how to identify skulls based on shape, teeth, and other characteristics. *10:30 a.m.–noon, Independence Lake County Park Meeting Rm., 3200 Jennings, north off North Territorial, Dexter. Free. 971–6337.*

"Little Peeps: Winter Wonderland": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. An interactive performance, drama activities, and a craft for kids in grades preK–5, accompanied by a caregiver. *10:30 a.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Tickets $7 ($5 for each additional child; adults, free). (989) 455–4484.*

★**"Miniature Orchids": Great Lakes Judging (Orchids).** Talk by accredited orchid judge Dennis Seffernick. *11 a.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. (517) 332–0004.*

"Owl's Winter": Wild Swan Theater. See 19 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** U-M student docents and UMMA staffers read stories related to the art on display. For kids ages 4–7 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. *11:15 a.m.–noon, UMMA (meet in front of the museum store), 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Roméo et Juliette": Fathom Events. *Jan. 21 & 25.* Live broadcast (Jan. 21) & rebroadcast (Jan. 25) of the Metropolitan Opera production of Gounod's opera based on Shakespeare's tragedy of star-crossed lovers. *12:55 p.m. (Jan. 21) & 6:30 p.m. (Jan. 25), Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Rave (4100 Carpenter). Tickets $18 (Quality 16) & $25 (Rave) in advance at fathomevents.com/list-all. 623–7469 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Rave).*

★**Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** All seniors invited to celebrate the legacy of MLK with inspirational, soul-stirring music. The program includes presentations TBA. Refreshments. *1–3:30 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 21 & 22.* Video game tournaments. Prizes. *Jan. 21:* **"Splatoon: Hyperlocal Splatfest."** *Jan. 22:* **"Mario Kart."** For all ages. *1–4 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Apple Showcase": MacTechnics/Ann Arbor District Library.** Briarwood Apple Store staffer Chris Anderson discusses and demonstrates new features of the latest Apple products, including MacBook Pro laptop computers, iPhones, and operating systems. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Chinese New Year Celebration": Ann Arbor District Library.** With Lion and Ribbon Dance performances. Participants can learn to use a *yaogu* drum, do a Chinese craft, and take home a Chinese treat. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Zen & the Art of Coloring": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults invited to see if they can attain a meditative state of mind by coloring pages from an assortment of coloring books, including Joanna Basford's popular *Secret Garden, Enchanted Forest,* and *Lost Ocean.* Supplies provided. Refreshments. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch West Side Room, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Dancing to recorded music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. The program begins with a lesson. *7–10 p.m., Gretchen's House Childcare Center, 2625 Traver. $5 (students, $3). 709–8748.*

"FutureStars 2017": Pioneer High School. See 20 Friday. Tonight: **"Broadway Breaks Ground"** (7 p.m.) & **"MyTunes Now"** (9:30 p.m.). 7 & 9:30 p.m.

"Big Cats' Night Out": Huron Valley Humane Society. All age 18 & older invited for trivia, drinks, popcorn, and a chance to cuddle with adoptable cats. Admission includes 2 tickets for beer and wine (for those age 21 & over only). Bring your own nonalcoholic beverages, if you wish. *7:30–9:30 p.m. (doors open at 7:15 p.m.), Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center, 5245 Jackson Rd. $15. Preregistration available at hshv.org. 661–3575.*

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Grange. Peter Baker and Martha vander Kolk call to live music TBA. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a lesson. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., just south of Oak Valley Dr. $10 (members, $7; students, $5). 476–4650.*

★**U-M Life Sciences Orchestra.** Todd Craven and Niklas Tamm conduct this ensemble of musicians from the U-M medical and life sciences staff in Glinka's *Ruslan and Ludmilla,* Stravinsky's brilliant and colorful *Firebird Suite,* and Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 6. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 936–ARTS.*

"Beethoven Quartet Cycle": Takács Quartet (University Musical Society). *Jan. 21 & 22.* Founded in Hungary in 1975, this world-renowned, Boulder-based ensemble—and UMS crowd favorite—is known for its warmth, eloquence, and discipline, and for the ease with which it masters demanding pieces. Violinists Edward Dusinberre and Karoly Schranz, violist Geraldine Walther, and cellist Andras Fejer are "four of the best string alchemists on the planet," writes a *Chicago Tribune reviewer. This weekend they perform the 2nd and 3rd concerts in their* "Beethoven Quartet Cycle." Dusinberre says, "Playing the works is a thrilling and daunting experience. We feel like tennis players forced out of position, obliged to draw on our physical and mental resources to raise our game." Tonight's program: Quartet no. 5 in A Major, Quartet no. 4 in C Minor, and Quartet no. 15 in A Minor. Preceded at 7 p.m. in the Rackham Amphitheatre (4th floor) by a lecture on the program. Also, today a free **sensory-friendly open rehearsal** (noon, preregistration available at ums.org/openrehearsal) for audience members with autism, sensory or communication disorders, or memory loss. *8 p.m. (Jan. 21) & 4 p.m. (Jan. 22), Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $28–$56 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Matt Watroba and Robert Jones: Mangiamo Italian Grill Acoustic Routes Concert. Double bill. Longtime former WDET host Watroba sings lyrical songs and poignant ballads in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar and punctuating his performance with sharply humorous observations. The longtime former host of WDET's *Blues from the Lowlands* and an ordained Baptist minister, Jones is an excellent singer and guitarist, with a huge repertoire that draws on Delta, Texas, Chicago, and other blues traditions. *8 p.m., Mangiamo, 107 W. Michigan Ave., Saline. $15 by reservation and at the door. Preferred seating for dinner customers. 429–0060.*

"6th Annual Ragtime Extravaganza": River Raisin Ragtime Revue. This Tecumseh-based ragtime orchestra hosts its annual ragtime, vaudeville, and burlesque show. Performers include the popular Lansing-based vocal quartet **Three Men and a Tenor,** acclaimed local baritone (and U-M voice professor) **Daniel Washington,** *So You Think You Can Dance* featured tap dancer **Bianca Revels,** award-winning London burlesque dancer **Miss Miranda,** local jazz pianist **James Dapogny,** the local jazz dance quartet **Erin Morris & Her Ragdolls,** and NYC trumpeter **Jon-Erik Kellso,** who was featured on the soundtracks to the films *Ghost World* and *The Aviator.* Preceded at 7 p.m. in the lobby by a pre-concert performance by four ragtime pianists. Parental discretion advised. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $35-$85 in advance at brownpapertickets.com/event/2591733. ragtimeband.org, (517) 673–2597.*

"Come On In; Come On Out – Safe and Sound with Out Loud": Out Loud Chorus. See 20 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Spring Awakening": Dexter Community Players. See 20 Friday. 8 p.m.

"In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Ben Creed: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

22 SUNDAY

"Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Collector's Show": Rerun Records. Popular fair with more than 50 dealers from a half dozen states selling rare and collectible used records and CDs as well as hard-to-find new releases. Includes every popular music genre, along with rock music books, rock videos, posters, and assorted popular culture memorabilia. Food and beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a small number of records to sell. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $3 admission (children age 10 & under, free). For information or to reserve a dealer table, call Rod Branham at 604–2540.*

★**"Even in Darkness": Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society Book Club.** All invited to discuss local writer Barbara Stark-Nemon's debut novel that was inspired by the story of her great-aunt's Holocaust survival. Snacks. *10 a.m.–noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

"The Sleeping Beauty": Fathom Events. Live broadcast of the Bolshoi Ballet (Moscow) production of Tchaikovsky's ballet, with classic choreography by Yuri Grigorovich. *12:55 p.m., Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Rave (4100 Carpenter). Tickets $17 in advance at fathomevents.com/event/Bolshoi-the-sleeping-beauty. 623–7469 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Rave).*

"Brewing Methods": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee Co. staff demonstrate and discuss 6–8 different ways to brew coffee, from filter drip to siphon pot. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. 929–6060.*

★**Mario Kart Tournament: Ann Arbor District Library.** Video game tournament for players of all ages. *1–4 p.m., AADL meeting room (4th floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Back to the Future: How the Past Informs Current Science": U-M Natural History Museum 2017 Family Reading & Science.** First in a series of 3 monthly family-oriented programs for kids ages 6–11 and their families. Today's program, **"For the Birds,"** is an exploration of the U-M ornithology collection, including a chance to gather data from some of the museum's specimens and learn how they are used to advance scientific theories and protect other birds. *1–2 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free; preregistration required. 764–0478.*

★**"Researching the Records of Great Britain": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk by veteran Lansing genealogist Jeff Mason. Followed by a talk by club member Rodger Wolf **"Tips for Using Find A Grave."** *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Illinois. The U-M squad also has a match this month against **Nebraska** (Jan. 28, 4 p.m.). *2 p.m., Crisler Center. Ticket prices TBA at mgoblue.com/tickets/gmw-index.html. 764–0247.*

★**"Traces: Reconstructing the History of a Chokwe Mask": UMMA.** *Jan. 22 & 29.* Docent-led tour of the current exhibit that traces the provenance of a mask that was collected in 1905 in Angola by German explorer Leo Frobenius. *2–3 p.m., UMMA, meet at the Museum Store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"A Gaijin at the Japan Grand Prix": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** New World Orchids (Manchester) owner Kristen Uthus gives a slide-illustrated talk on her trips to Japan, with emphasis on the Japan Grand Prix international orchid festival. Also, a sale of Japanese and other orchids. *2–5 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. AnnArborOrchids@aol.com*

"Creature Feature": Waterloo Natural History Association. Little Creatures Co. (Royal Oak) owner Dan Briere, aka "Dan the Creature Man," displays and discusses live exotic animals. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I–94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Friends in Song and Stories": Ann Arbor District Library.** A program for kids in grades K–3 featuring AADL storyteller **Laura Pershin Raynor,** a former National Storyteller of the Year, and her longtime friends **Gemini,** the popular acoustic duo of twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits whose repertoire includes sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life's simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. Gemini is joined by San's daughter, fiddler **Emily Slomovits.** *2–2:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Freespace (3rd floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 971–5763.*

"Kaleidoscope": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen directs this local volunteer ensemble in his own *Sanctuary,* a work dedicated to the Tubbs family in memory of longtime AACB trumpeter Lisa Tubbs. The program also includes Sousa's "The Royal Welch Fusiliers March," Holst's Second Suite in F, Bach's Prelude and Fugue in D Minor and G Minor, David Camphouse's *Dakota Rhapsody,* the 2nd and 3rd movements from Howard Hanson's Symphony no. 2, David Holsinger's *Liturgical Dances,* and Russell Alexander's "From Tropic to Tropic March." *2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (seniors & students, $5; kids age 11 & under, free) in advance from band members or at the door. aaband.org, 478–7515.*

"In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Spring Awakening": Dexter Community Players. See 20 Friday. 3 p.m.

★**"Design Your Own Model Car": Ann Arbor District Library.** Craft activity for kids in grades 2–6. *3–4 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Beethoven Quartet Cycle": Takács Quartet (University Musical Society). See 21 Saturday. Today's program: Quartet no. 3 in D Major, Quartet no. 8 in E Minor, and Quartet no. 12 in E-flat Major. 4 p.m.

★**Matthew Bengtson: U-M School of Music.** This U-M piano professor performs works by Ravel, Scriabin, Bolcom, and Chopin. *4:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Open Stage: Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** All performers invited to showcase their talents. *7 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Free (pay-what-you-can for spectators). Email info@pointlessbrew.com to sign up for a 10–15 minute spot. (989) 455–4484.*

★**"Giuseppe Verdi: The Master's 'Not-So-Well-Known' Greatest Hits for the Bass Voice": U-M School of Music.** U-M voice professor **Stephen West** performs rarely heard Verdi works. With pianist **Kathryn Goodson.** *7 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

★**"'The Star-Spangled Banner': Transformation, Translation, Amnesia & Remembrance": SMTD@UMMA.** U-M musicology professor Mark Clague gives a lecture-recital based on his forthcoming book about the national anthem and its 200-year-journey from broadside to victory ballad to protest song to anthem. *7–8:30 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"The Audience": National Theatre Live (University Musical Society). Rebroadcast of the 2013 West End production of this drama by British playwright and screenwriter Peter Morgan (*The Queen* and *Frost/Nixon*). The play, directed by Academy Award–nominated director Stephen Daldry, imagines the weekly private meetings at Buckingham Palace between Queen Elizabeth II (Helen Mirren) and the Prime Minister, from Churchill to Cameron, through a series of non-chronological vignettes. According to an *Independent* (UK) reviewer, Mirren "rises to the daunting technical challenge with a quite uncannily fluid lightness of touch as she shifts back and forth on an age-spectrum of six decades." With Q&A with Mirren and Daldry. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $22 (Michigan Theater members & UMS donors & subscribers, $18) in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Ann Arbor Camerata: First United Methodist Church. Victor Minke Huls directs this local chamber orchestra in Schubert's popular Symphony no. 5 and Stravinsky's *Pulcinella Suite.* Reception follows. *7:30 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Freewill offering. 662–4536, ext. 0.*

23 MONDAY

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon., Jan. 23–Apr. 24.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors ($125 per semester dues for those who join). 665–9271.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *Jan. 23, 24, & 31.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. *Jan. 23:* Penn State Asian history & religious studies professor Pierce Salguero discusses **"Beyond Mindfulness: Buddhism & Health in Historical Perspective."** *Jan. 24:* U-M Center for Chinese Studies artist-in-residence Wang Qingsong and U-M Center for Chinese Studies Hughes scholar Fang Zhang discuss **"'The Glory of Hope:' A Lens to Unravel the Social Changes in China."** *Jan. 31:* U-M Center for Chinese Studies postdoc Tarryn Li-Min Chun discusses **"Lighting, Cameras, Action: Technological Revolutions in Modern Chinese Theater."** *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB/International Institute, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**"Folk Song Sing-Along."** All invited to join a family-oriented recreational sing-along of folk songs. Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Lyrics and chords are projected on a screen for singers and strummers. Led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski. *7 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 426–7818.*

★**"Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M Afroamerican and African studies professor Heather Ann Thompson discusses her new book. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

24 TUESDAY

★**"Knit Together: A Knitting and Crocheting Group for Grievers": Ann Arbor District Library.** All grieving adults invited to bring their knitting and crocheting projects to work on and share grief support. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Good Households and Household Goods: Material Culture and Burgess Identity after the Black Death": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** U-M English and history professor Katherine French discusses the evolution of social identities in late medieval London. *2 p.m., Institute for the Humanities Common Room, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Margot Lee Shetterly: U-M College of Engineering.** This freelance journalist discusses her acclaimed book, ***Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race,*** the basis for a major Hollywood film. Q&A Followed at the U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium (1226 Murfin, North Campus) by a "fireside chat" with Shetterly and U-M College of Engineering dean and aerospace engineering professor Alec Gallimore (7 p.m.), and a reception and book signing (7:45 p.m.) *4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–9263.*

★**"No Geographical Lines: Slavery and Abolition in Michigan": U-M Office of the President.** Lecture by U-M Afroamerican and African studies professor Tiya Miles. *4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 647–7909.*

★**"Jews and Photography in Britain: New Perspectives in Jewish History and the History of Photography": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** University College (London) Jewish history professor Michael Berkowitz discusses his recent book, a historical investigation that ranges from the work of immigrant Jewish portrait photographers in the mid–19th century to Baron, the court photographer for the British royal family in the 1940s and 50s. *4:10 p.m., 202 S. Thayer (Rm. 2022). Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Guided Meditation for Kids": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local massage therapist and meditation leader Amy Tarrant leads kids in grades 1–5 (with or without a parent) in a series of guided meditations. At the end of the session, kids have a chance to process the experience through artistic expression. Bring a blanket or pillow, if you like. *6:30–7:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Eco Book Club: Literati Bookstore.** All invited to join a discussion, led by local poet Alison Swan, of ***A Sand County Almanac,*** Aldo Leopold's classic 1949 collection of essays on nature and ecological themes. *7 p.m., Literati (upstairs at the coffee shop), 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Self-Care Massage: TMJ, Jaw and Face": Ann Arbor District Library.** Lecture-demo by local massage therapist Brian Truskowski. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Reading by Detroit-bred poet **Nandi Comer,** a U-M grad who won the 2016 Detroit Write A House Fellowship. The program begins with open mike readings. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

25 WEDNESDAY

★**"Planning for Financial Changes as We Age": U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** Talk by local attorney Constance Jones. *10 a.m.–noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration recommended. 998–9353.*

★**"Jewish Voices in Russia and Ukraine: What Are They Saying?": U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies Noon Lectures.** Talk by U-M Slavic languages & literatures professor Mikhail Krutikov. Bring a bag lunch, if you like. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**"The Fortunes": U-M Institute for the Humanities Authors Forum.** U-M English professor **Peter Ho Davies** reads from his new novel, a multigenerational tale about the lives of Chinese Americans, and then discusses it with fellow English professor Douglas Trevor. Q&A. Signing. *5:30–7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Politics and Psychology from Mussolini to the Alt-Right": U-M Natural History Museum Science Café.** Talks by U-M history professor Dario Gaggio and U-M psychology professor Joshua Rabinowitz. Followed by discussion. *5:30–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764–0478.*

"The Fall of the Berlin Wall: The Making of a Global Iconic Event": Ann Arbor City Club Dine and Discover. Talk by U-M communication studies professor Julia Sonnevend. Dinner. *6–7:30 p.m., City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $33 (members, $28). Reservations required by Jan. 20. 662–3279, ext. 1.*

★**"Smell and Tell: Zoologist Perfumes": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd, creator of the award-winning smell and taste blog Glass Petal Smoke, discusses this Toronto-based niche fragrance company, founded by Victor Wong in 2013, that makes non-animal-based scents with names like Bat, Beaver, Hummingbird, Macaque, Nightingale, Panda, and Rhinoceros. *6:30–8:45 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

"Roméo et Juliette": Fathom Events. See 21 Saturday. 6:30 p.m.

★**"$2 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff lead a discussion of U-M social work professor Luke Shaefer and Johns Hopkins University sociology professor Kathryn Edin's acclaimed study of the forms poverty takes in contemporary America, the 2017 Washtenaw Reads selection. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Readings by WSU English professor **Caroline Maun,** a widely published poet whose collections include *The Sleeping* and *What Remains,* and *Cruel Garters* journal editor **Glen Armstrong,** an Oakland University writing professor who has published several chapbooks. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Kenneth Kiesler conducts this ensemble of music majors in Mozart's Symphony no. 41 and Holst's *The Planets.* Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

26 THURSDAY

★**Stephen Forrest: U-M Office of the President.** This U-M engineering professor discusses the benefits of OLEDs (organic light emitting devices) and the challenges to making their use more widespread. *4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 647–7909.*

★**"Amsterdam 1964": U-M German Department Werner Grilk Lecture.** Talk by former International Center for Cultural Studies (Vienna) director Helmut Lethen. *5–7 p.m., Rackham East Conference Room. Free. 764–8018.*

★**"Hank Willis Thomas: The Truth Is I Love You": U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series.** Talk by this NYC photo conceptual artist who works with themes of identity, history, and pop culture. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668–8463.*

★**"Artists Meet & Greet": Ann Arbor Art Center.** Ypsi Alloy Studios founders Elize Jekabson, Jessica Tenbusch, and Ilana Houten discuss how they operate and what it means for their artistic practices. *6–8 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994–8004.*

★**"Speaking Greek at the American University Over the Last Two Centuries": U-M Modern Greek Program Pallas Lecture.** Talk by Ohio State University modern Greek professor Yiorgos Anagnostou, author of *Contours of White Ethnicity: Popular Ethnography and the Making of Usable Pasts in Greek America. 7–9 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Rm. Free. 936–6099.*

★**"Taxes: Is the State Legislature Playing Fair with Local Governments?": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion, with local county, city, and township government representatives TBA, to address the impact of the 45% decrease since 2001 in state revenue sharing payments to local governments in Michigan. Moderated by League of Women Voters of Michigan vice president Susan Smith. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose rm. (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Forgotten City": Aunt Agatha's Book Club.** NYC-based fiction writer **Carrie Smith,** a 3-time Hopwood winner as a U-M undergrad, discusses her 2nd crime novel, a police procedural featuring NYPD detective Claire Codella. *7 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–1114.*

★**"Learn to Pray and Heal (A Spiritual Adventure)": First Church of Christ, Scientist.** Talk by Nate Frederick, a Christian Science healing practitioner and teacher from Boothbay (ME). *7:30–8:30 p.m., First Church of Christ, Scientist, 1833 Washtenaw. Free. 662–1694.*

"Test Batch": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Performances by new local improv groups. *7:30 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. $5. info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Michael E. Winfield: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 26–28.* Charismatic Baltimore-bred actor-comedian best known for autobiographical storytelling that is alternately (and sometimes simultaneously) self-deprecating and self-aggrandizing. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $12 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $14 (Thurs.) & $17 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

27 FRIDAY

★**"Defective, Deficient, Burdensome: Thinking about Bad Bodies": U-M Counseling and Psy-**

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The Winter 2017 Roy A. Rappaport Lectures:

"A Socialist Peace? Explaining the Absence of War in an African Country"

This series of four public lectures by Professor Mike McGovern based on his book manuscript A Socialist Peace? Explaining the Absence of War in an African Country examines the context and questions of civil conflict, and specifically the avoidance thereof, in the West African nation of Guinea.

"Understanding and Explaining the Absence of War"
Friday, January 20 in the Rackham Assembly Hall - 4th Floor Rackham Bldg

"Resentment: The Seeds of Violence Sown"
Friday, February 17 in the Rackham Assembly Hall - 4th Floor Rackham Bldg

"Nuvanuita: Ethnic Cleansing Planned Then Averted"
Friday, March 10 in the Rackham Assembly Hall - 4th Floor Rackham Bldg

"The Afterlife of a Socialist Habitus"
Friday, March 31 in the Michigan Union, Pendleton Room

Mike McGovern is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology. A political anthropologist who works in West Africa and Southeast Asia, he uses a variety of sources from kinship idioms to the aesthetics of state-sponsored folklore to try to understand postcolonial states within the arc of longer historical trajectories.

For more information **www.lsa.umich.edu/anthro** michigan-anthro@umich.edu

M LSA ANTHROPOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

chological Services/U-M MLK Symposium. Vermont poet, speaker, and activist **Eli Clare** presents a program of history, storytelling, and poetry that examines the ways some bodies and communities are named as bad and disposable. *10:30 a.m.–noon, Michigan Union Anderson Rm. Free. 764–8312.*

★Tracy K. Smith: U-M Hopwood Underclassmen Awards Ceremony. Reading by this poet whose Pulitzer Prize–winning 2011 collection, *Life on Mars,* draws on sources as disparate as Arthur C. Clarke and David Bowie and is in part an elegiac tribute to her late father, an engineer who worked on the Hubble Telescope. Her highly acclaimed 2015 book, *Ordinary Light,* is a memoir about her experiences growing up in suburban California and struggling to fashion her own understanding of belief, loss, history, and what it means to be black in America. "She holds the child she was in her adult hands, examining the things that bridge the two: memory, parents, siblings, time—and of course her extraordinary eye," says novelist Abraham Verghese. Preceded by awards presentations to U-M undergrad poets and prose writers. *3:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764–6296.*

40th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark. *Jan. 27 & 28 (different programs).* A major highlight of the local musical year, with established and rising stars representing a wide spectrum of vernacular musical idioms. Tonight's headliner is **Kacey Musgraves,** a Texas-bred Nashville-based Americana alt-country singer-songwriter whose 2013 CD *Same Trailer Different Park* reached the top of the *Billboard* country chart. "She's a sharp, detailed songwriter with a little bit of an edge," says allmusic.com reviewer Steve Leggett. "The marvelous 'Merry Go 'Round' showed an intelligent, careful writing style that is as pointed as it is poignant, and even though the song seems to skewer small-town country life, it does it without malice or agenda, and is really more just telling it true than anything else." Also appearing: **Jenny Lewis** is a veteran indie rock singer-songwriter who first came to prominence as the lead singer of Rilo Kiley and is currently a member of the politically-tinged all-female rock trio Nice as Fuck. **Nahko & Medicine for the People** is an American world music sextet fronted by keyboardist Nahko Bear, a Portland (OR) native of mixed Apache, Puerto Rican, and Filipino descent. **Valerie June** is a Memphis singer-songwriter with an arresting vocal presence whose music is a bracing, artful mix of folk, blues, gospel, soul, country, Appalachian, and bluegrass idioms that she calls "organic moonshine roots music." **Rainbow Kitten Surprise** is an energetic guitar-driven alt-rock band from Boone (NC) in the Blue Ridge Mountains whose influences range from Modest Mouse to Kings of Leon. **Zach Heckendorf** is a young hip-hop-inflected singer-songwriter from Denver. Emcee both nights is **Susan Werner,** a popular veteran singer-songwriter known for a jazz-inspired, classically trained vocal style she describes as "pop illiterate" and for her incisive, vividly imagined songs in a variety of moods. *6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $37.50–$200 per night or $67.50–$360 for both, in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mototix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★Keith Taylor: Literati Bookstore. This veteran local poet, the U-M undergraduate creative writing program director, reads from ***The Bird-while,*** his new collection of poems, illustrated by Tom Pohrt, that are inspired by metaphors hidden in the concept of the bird-while, which Ralph Waldo Emerson defined as the minimum distance a bird requires between itself and a human observer. The 49 poems in the collection are meditations on nature that range in topic from travel to species extinction to survival. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Ann Arbor Guitar Trio: Stone Chalet Bed and Breakfast Inn and Event Center. This trio of local guitarists **Alex Anest, Evan Veasey,** and **Adam Kahana** performs improvisations as well as works by Oliver Nelson, Marc Johnson, Ellen Rowe, Pat Metheny, and Ernie Krivda. *7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Stone Chalet, 1917 Washtenaw. Tickets $15 in advance at events.stonechalet.com and (if available) at the door. 417–7223.*

★"Mozart Celebration Concert": U-M School of Music. U-M viola professor **Yizhak Schotten** and several music grad students perform Mozart's Duo in B-flat Major, String Quartet in D Major, and Divertimento for Violin, Viola, and Cello in E-Flat Major. *7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

Sketch Comedy Revue: Greenhills School Voodoo Theater Company. *Jan. 27 & 28.* Greenhills students present comedy sketches they've written and produced. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Tickets $5. 769–4010.*

"Fire and Ice Tango Festival": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Jan. 27–29.* This annual tango festival features evening dance parties. Preceded each day by afternoon workshops (see umich.edu/~matc for workshop schedule and pricing). *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Rm. (Jan. 27) & Ballroom (Jan. 28 & 29). $10 (tentative). umich.edu/~matc*

★Symphony Band Chamber Winds: U-M School of Music. This ensemble of music majors performs works from 1597 to 1936, including Gabrieli's Canzoni 27 & 28 and *Canzon Noni Toni,* Revueltas' *Homenaje a Federico Garcia Lorca,* Krommer's Partita op. 67, Varèse's Intégrales, and Hartmann's Serenade op. 43. *8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Hankinson Rehearsal Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XV": Kerrytown Concert House. *Jan. 27–29 and Feb. 3 & 4.* An elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs showcasing noted local women singers. With pianist Tyler Driskill. Singers include Linda Beaupre, Sue Booth, Carolyn Burnstein, Roxy Diederich, Shelley MacMillan, Deanna Relyea, Monica Swartout-Bebow, and Kathy Waugh. Founder Wendy Bloom directs. Wine is served. This popular event usually sells out. *8 p.m. (except Jan. 29, 4 p.m.), KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20–$50. Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Spring Awakening": Dexter Community Players. See 20 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Michael E. Winfield: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

28 SATURDAY

"ScienceFest: Math Mayhem": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 28 & 29.* Math activities such as 3-D puzzles taller than an adult and information on how to walk through a single piece of paper. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., AAHOM Legacy Gallery, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★Winterfest: Saline Main Street. This annual festival of family-friendly indoor and outdoor winter activities includes broomball, an obstacle course, board games, outdoor euchre, darks, corn hole, warming fires, entertainment TBA, and more. *10 a.m.–evening, downtown Saline. Free admission. salinemainstreetmi@gmail.com*

★"Paper Flowers": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a bouquet of colorful paper flowers. Materials provided. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★"The Scene: Year-End Screening": Ann Arbor District Library. Screening of the 2016 recap episode of this 30-minute monthly web show (thescenea2.com), produced by Ann Arbor native Christina Morales Hemenway, about arts & entertainment events in town. *4–5:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, Westgate shopping center, 2503 Jackson. Free. 327–8301.*

★New Moon Hike & Stargazing: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Shawn Severance leads kids ages 7–12 on a nighttime hike. Followed by hot drinks around the campfire. *6–8 p.m., County Farm Park. Free. 971–6337, ext. 335.*

"TBE 50th Anniversary Gala Fundraiser: The Next 50 Years": Temple Beth Emeth. Strolling supper, drinks, and dancing to live music. Also, live and silent auctions, games, and prizes. 1960s attire encouraged. Childcare provided. *6 p.m., Washtenaw Golf Club, 2955 Packard. Tickets $125. Reservations required. 665–4744.*

40th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark. See 27 Friday. Tonight's headliner is **The Indigo Girls,** the legendary folk-pop duo from Decatur, Georgia, that's known for their lean vocal harmonies, at once sweet and pungent, and for their friendly, affecting musical blend of folk simplicity, country grit, and pop charm. Also appearing: **Margo Price** is a hugely talented 33-year-old neo-honky-tonk singer-songwriter whose critically celebrated 2016 debut CD *Midwest Farmer's Daughter* has been praised for what *Rolling Stone* calls its "amazingly vivid songcraft." **Kiefer Sutherland** is a veteran movie actor who recently took up songwriting and released a debut CD, *Down in a Hole,* that he describes as "the closest thing I've ever had to a journal or diary." **Over the Rhine** is an acclaimed Cincinnati quartet, led by the husband-and-wife songwriter duo of vocalist Karin Bergquist and bassist Linford Detweiler, that plays energetic heartland rock 'n' roll, at once artful and urgent. **We Banjo 3** is an all-star quartet from Galway whose music is a virtuosic, revelatory blend of traditional Irish music with American old-time music and bluegrass that foregrounds traditional melodies with modern rhythms. **Davina & the Vagabonds** is a Minneapolis Americana quintet, fronted by the powerful vocals of singer-songwriter Davina Sowers, that plays a brand of high-energy horn-based blues incorporating New Orleans charm, Memphis soul swagger, tender gospel passages, and dark theatrical moments that evoke Kurt Weill. **Corn Potato String Band** is a Detroit-based acoustic trio that plays Appalachian folk music from ballads and Southern gospel to "ho-downs" and country rags. 6:30 p.m.

2017 Chinese New Year Gala: U-M Chinese Students and Scholars Association. In celebration of the Lunar New Year of the Chinese Year of the Rooster, an evening of Chinese performance groups, musicians, singers, dancers, and comedians of various ages and cultural backgrounds. Emcees speak in both English and Chinese. English surtitles provided. *7–8:45 p.m., Michigan Theater. $12–$16 in advance, $15 at the door. facebook.com/cssa.umich.*

19th Annual Hometown Concert: Chelsea House Orchestra. This touring ensemble of some 2 dozen Chelsea High School students plays traditional Scottish and Irish jigs and reels, along with other folk-inspired music and even some rock 'n' roll. Opening act is the Beach (Middle School) Fiddle Club. Also, an afterglow to visit with current and past CHO musicians. *7 p.m., Chelsea High School Auditorium, 740 N. Freer (between Old US–12 and Washington St.), Chelsea. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $5) in advance at Chelsea Pharmacy & tickets@chelseahouseorchestra.org, and at the door. 475–1957.*

"FutureStars 2017": Pioneer High School. See 20 Friday. Tonight: **Final competition.** 7:30 p.m.

Sketch Comedy Revue: Greenhills School Voodoo Theater Company. See 27 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★Kathleen Kelly & Stanford Olson: U-M School of Music. Pianist Kelly and tenor Olson—both U-M music professors—perform beloved Goethe-lieder by Schubert and Wolf as well as lesser known works by two 20th-century composers, Madeleine Dring and Elinor Remick Warren. *8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XV": Kerrytown Concert House. See 27 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Spring Awakening": Dexter Community Players. See 20 Friday. 8 p.m.

Michael E. Winfield: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

29 SUNDAY

★"8th Annual Preschool Expo": Ann Arbor District Library. Representatives from area preschools are on hand to answer questions from parents of prospective preschoolers. *1–4 p.m., AADL 1st-floor lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Europe on Paper: The Ernst Pulgram and Frances McSparran Collection": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of graphic art by Austrian and German expressionists and the inventive Italian artist Giovanni Battista Piranesi. *2–3 p.m., UMMA, meet at the Museum Store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"The Adventure of the Second Stain": The Arcadia Mixture Sherlock Holmes Club. All invited to discuss Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes story in which the prime minister tasks Holmes to recover a sensitive document stolen from the Secretary of State for European Affairs's dispatch box. Also, a report on the early January meeting of the Baker Street Irregulars in New York City. *2–4 p.m., Classic Cup Café, 4389 Jackson. Free (buy your own food). rpl@umich.edu*

"Winter Orienteering": Waterloo Natural History Association. WNHA naturalists lead a hike to learn to find your way through the woods in winter. Compass provided, or bring your own. *2–4 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I–94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

"Smart Love": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Spring Awakening": Dexter Community Players. See 20 Friday. 3 p.m.

★"Handheld Scripture: An Introduction to Tibetan Book Covers": UMMA. New York–based Asian art consultant Kathryn Selig Brown discusses *Protecting Wisdom,* the current UMMA exhibit of Tibetan book covers that she curated. *3–4:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"Chowgirls Killer Party Food: Righteous Bites & Cocktails for Every Season": Nicola's Books. Michigan-born chef **Heidi Andermack** and Minneapolis-based chef **Amy Lynn Brown,** cofounders of Chowgirls Killer Catering, discuss their new cookbook. Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Inon Barnatan, Anthony McGill, & Alisa Weilerstein: University Musical Society. New York Philharmonic featured piano soloist Barnatan, New York Philharmonic principal clarinetist Anthony McGill, and cellist (and MacArthur "Genius") Weilerstein perform Beethoven's playful Clarinet Trio in B-flat Ma-

jor and Brahms' Clarinet Trio, a work that prompted a friend of Brahms to say, "it is as though the instruments are in love with each other." The program also includes Joseph Hallman's new *short stories*, which was co-commissioned by UMS. *4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $26–$52 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XV": Kerrytown Concert House. See 27 Friday. 4 p.m.

"Blue Moon Dance and Music Jams with Cold Tone Harvest": Stone Chalet Bed and Breakfast Inn and Event Center. Chelsea-based acoustic roots music quartet Cold Tone Harvest performs a set. Followed by a chance to dance to live music by the band, with dance activities led by People Dancing artistic director **Cristina Sears,** who helps participants explore partnering skills such as weight-sharing, counter-balance, and safe lifts. All ages and skill levels welcome. *4:30 p.m., Stone Chalet, 1917 Washtenaw. Tickets $12 (families, $28) in advance at events.stonechalet.com and (if available) at the door. 417–7223.*

★**Frank Chiou: U-M School of Music.** This Ohio Wesleyan University piano professor performs all of Chopin's works in B major and B minor. *5 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 615–3204.*

★**"En Español Festival: Sounds of the Hispanosphere": U-M School of Music.** *Jan. 29–Feb. 4.* Concerts, lectures, and master classes that celebrate music and musicians who blend Western classical traditions with those from Hispanic-Latino culture. Tonight: Recital by **Duo Villalobos** (7:30 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus), a Barcelona-based duo that specializes in music written for cello and guitar but also plays originals and arrangements of classical, contemporary, folk, and traditional repertoire. *Different times & locations. Free. 615–3204.*

30 MONDAY

★**Sonia Sotomayor & Susanne Baer: U-M Bicentennial.** U.S. Supreme Court justice Sotomayor and Federal Constitutional Court of Germany justice Baer discuss "The Future University Community." With moderator Michele Norris, former host of NPR's All Things Considered. *10 a.m., Hill Auditorium. Free but tickets required. UMBicentennial@umich.edu, 647–2467.*

★**"Dancing for Little Ones": Ann Arbor District Library.** Dancers Edge (Dexter) staff introduce kids ages 2–5 to ballet and jazz dancing. *11–11:45 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Sonia Sotomayor & Susanne Baer: U-M School of Music, Theatre, and Dance/U-M Bicentennial.** U.S. Supreme Court justice Sotomayor and Federal Constitutional Court of Germany justice Baer discuss the role of performing arts in promoting social justice. Also, performances by mezzo-soprano (and Sphinx medalist) **Carla Dirlikov Canales,** the **U-M Men's Glee Club,** and other U-M SMTD students. *5:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free; preregistration recommended. 615–3204.*

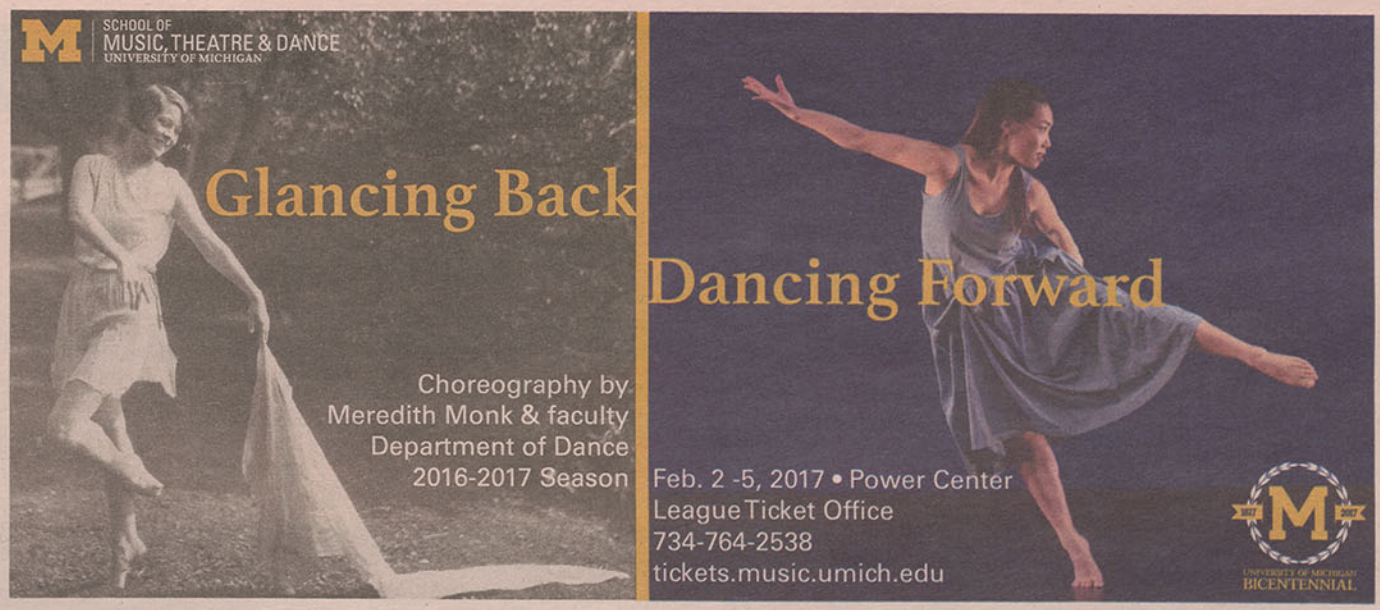
★**"French Macaroons": Ann Arbor District Library.** People's Food Co-op head baker Keegan Rodgers presents a hands-on introduction to making and properly storing these tasty cookies. Recipes. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"En Español Festival: Sounds of the Hispanosphere": U-M School of Music.** See 29 Sunday. Tonight: Recital by the **Cañón-Contreras Dúo** of Colombian pianist César Cañón and Venezuelan cellist Horacio Contreras. With guest violinist (and U-M music professor) **Danielle Belen.** U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. 8 p.m.

31 TUESDAY

★**"Predictors of Success in School and Beyond": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M psychology professor Fred Morrison. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"En Español Festival: Sounds of the Hispanosphere": U-M School of Music.** See 29 Sunday. Today: a **master class** (4:30 p.m.) with Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.) piano professor **Jose Ramos Santa,** a Spanish music master who performs tonight at 7:30 p.m. (U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits) with U-M piano professor **Matthew Bengtson.** 4:30 & 7:30 p.m.



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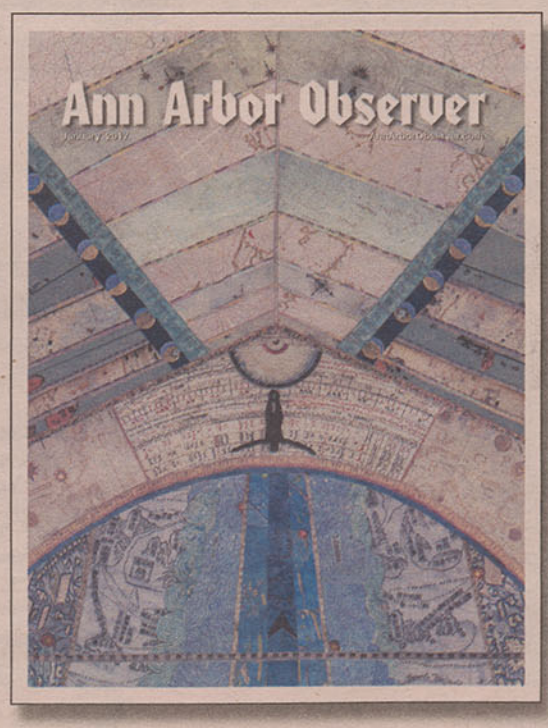

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CALL TO ACTION
Progressive-minded Catholic Community working together for equality & justice. Local branch of national group. Meets last Sunday each month at Genesis, 2309 Packard, at 1:00. Next meeting: January 29. (734) 975–4632. All welcome! www.cta-wc.org

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Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon January 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: fakead@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

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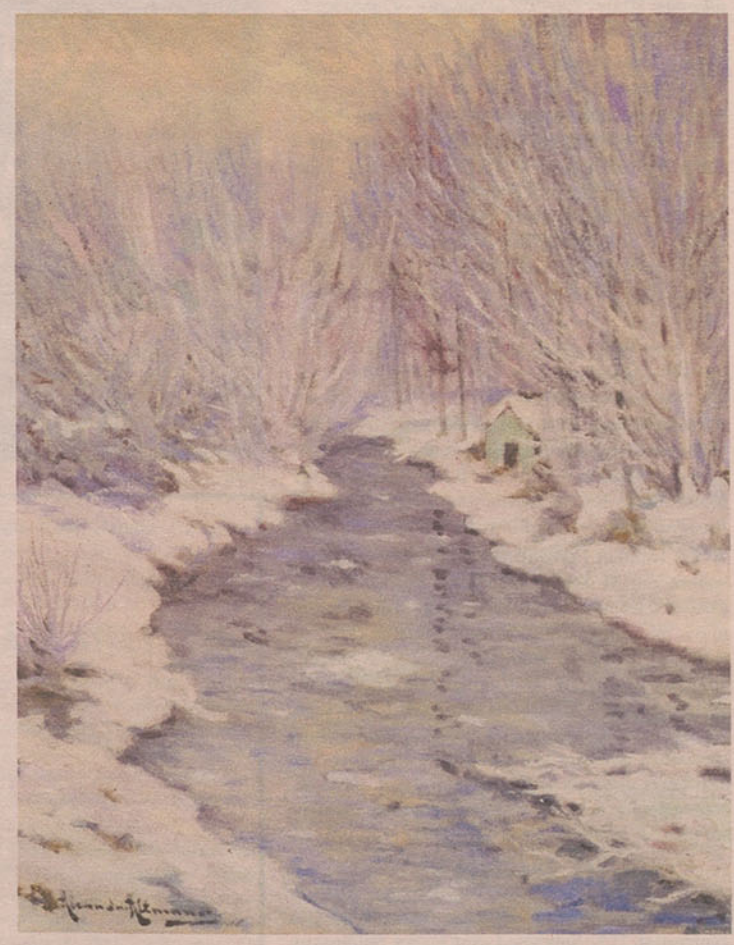

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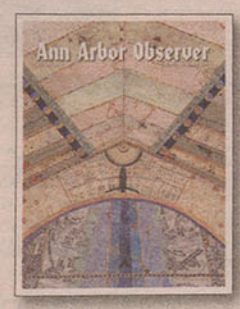
Publisher



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4700 Stonehill, Ann Arbor
$894,900

Tranquil, country-like setting for this remarkable Scio Township home situated on 3 private acres with wooded views. Vaulted living room with exposed wood beams flows into the formal dining room. Stunning gourmet kitchen has coffered ceiling and all of the extras. Walk-out lower level is finished with a family room, full bath, rec room, plus a workout space.

3223 Creston, Superior Township
$834,900

Gorgeous Toll Brothers built home in the exclusive Glennborough subdivision! Enter through a grand foyer with sweeping staircase that leads to the beautiful formal dining room. Open and spacious kitchen boasts granite counters, limestone backsplash, and high-end stainless appliances. Lavish master bedroom suite and finished, walk-out lower level.

13777 Orchard Ridge Drive, Chelsea
$699,900

Spectacular Heritage custom log home, located on 6.26 very private acres with incredible views and privacy. Enter into a 32 foot cathedral ceiling great room with an indoor pond and water fountain, plus a 2-story stone fireplace. With 7 baths, 3 kitchens with granite counter tops, 2 laundry rooms, and 7 fireplaces in 3 separate living areas, the possibilities are unlimited.

Superior Township

This executive ranch, on 3.5 private acres is an entertainers dream! A grand marble foyer opens to the living room surrounded by columns and highlighted by a fireplace. Finished, walk-out lower level. ***$969,900***

Ann Arbor

Stunning custom-built home boasting numerous features including a first floor master, walkout lower-level, and a prime location. Chef's kitchen features large island, stainless appliances, granite counters, and gorgeous cabinetry. ***$950,000***

Ann Arbor

Premium downtown living in this 3-story Ashley Mews brownstone with upgrades galore. Maple kitchen with granite counters. Two inviting bedroom suites, and the third floor features a spacious 3rd bedroom/ study. ***$900,000***

Ann Arbor

Enjoy living on a quiet cul-de-sac in this distinctive 4-bedroom home in the picturesque Riverwood subdivision. Vaulted master suite features a spa-like bath with jacuzzi tub. Just a short walk to schools, parks and downtown! ***$489,000***

Ann Arbor

Move right in and start fresh in this spacious home at Foxfire. Over 3100 total sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms and 2.1 baths. Hardwood floors in living, dining, and family rooms. Huge rec room, plus study in finished lower level. ***$394,900***

Ann Arbor

Convenient first floor living at this beautifully maintained Valley Ranch condo. Enter into the light-filled, vaulted great room with neutral decor, hardwood floor, and cozy gas fireplace. Walk-out lower level is ready for finishing. ***$365,000***

Ann Arbor

Well located 3-bedroom Berkshire Creek condo. This contemporary unit features a bright and open floor plan with the kitchen opening to the dining and living area with a gas fireplace. Walk to Whole Foods, Panera, shopping, and more! ***$335,000***

Pittsfield Township

Spacious, well-maintained Mallard Cove home with a traditional floor plan. Formal living and dining rooms with gleaming hardwood floors. Family room has a cozy wood-burning stove. Ann Arbor address with Saline schools. ***$334,900***

Ann Arbor

Over 2000 square feet in this end unit at Barclay Park! This 3-bedroom brownstone features 3.1 baths, a walk-out lower level, and 2-car garage. Bright and open vaulted living room with fireplace. Huge master suite has spa tub. ***$298,900***

Ann Arbor

Picturesque view of the peaceful landscape of Bird Hills Nature Area from this Newport West condo. Over 1600 sq. ft. with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. Walk-out lower level has a family room with fireplace, plus a large full bath. ***$265,000***

Ann Arbor

Fabulous second floor condo in Northside Ridge, conveniently located just 5 minutes from the Hospital, downtown Ann Arbor, and North Campus. Bright and spacious living room opens to covered balcony. Attached garage. ***$224,900***

Chelsea

Watch the wildlife go by from this beautiful horse property with more than 4 scenic acres! Home offers 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. The expansive barn with power and water also includes three large stalls, plus a separate tack room. ***$185,000***

Ypsilanti

Larger than it looks! This 1400 square foot College Heights ranch features a traditional floor plan PLUS an added family room with a fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout most of the home. Large backyard abuts Candy Cane Park. ***$167,900***

Ann Arbor

Freshly painted ranch on quiet road in Pittsfield Township. This home features a spacious living room that opens to an eat-in kitchen with plenty of cabinets for storage. Three bedrooms with hardwood floors and a full bath. ***$165,000***

Canton

Freshly painted and newly carpeted! This 2-bedroom condo is the definition of move-in ready. Skylights throughout bring in so much natural light. Vaulted living and dining area features a cozy fireplace. Master suite with spa-like bath. ***$146,000***

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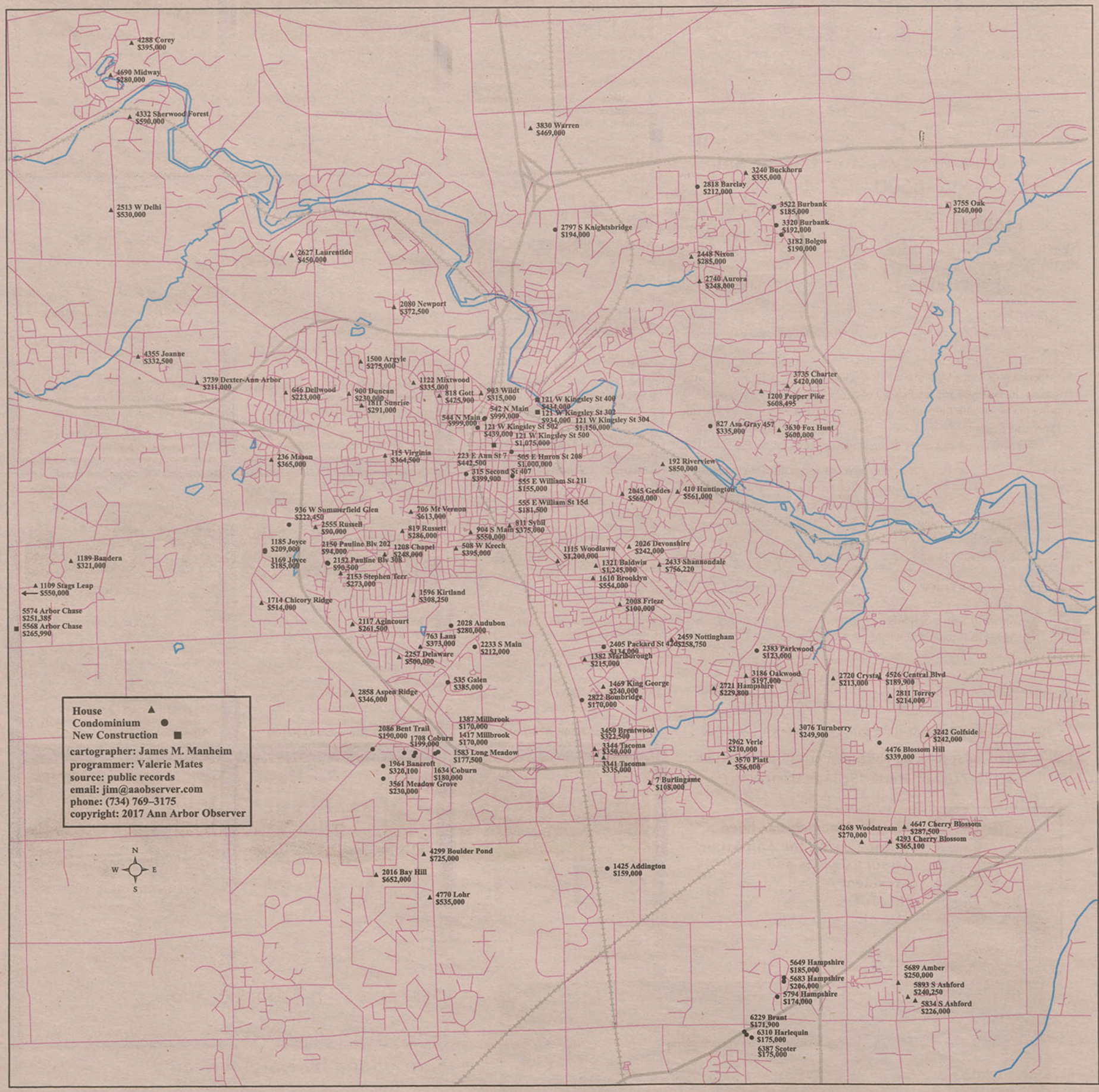
HOME SALES



Our November 2016 map contains five sales of more than $1 million—and three more bubbling under that mark at $900,000 to $1 million. Five million-dollar-plus transactions equals the record set in July 2014, which edged out the previous record of four, in the end-of-the-boom month of December 2007.

All of those earlier record sales came from Ann Arbor's traditional reservoirs of high-end homes: Burns Park, Ann Arbor Hills, and the wooded stretches of land along the Huron River. But in 2016, the center of gravity has shifted. Two Burns Park homes, at 1115 Woodlawn and 1321 Baldwin, still held the top spots with prices over the million-dollar mark. But all the rest, and all three of the $900,000-to-$1 million group, are downtown condominiums.

Downtown's million-dollar babies are clustered on and around N. Main St., in the new 121 Kingsley West midrise and Main on the Park townhouses. This area, not so long ago one of Ann Arbor's poorer neighborhoods, now seems well positioned to become one of its richest. The two Kingsley West units at the top of our list are penthouses, with two-story layouts and nice private decks, but at 2,587 and 2,602 square feet, they're not enormous. For all these units, walkability to the new luxury downtown—to fine dining at Spencer, which is impressing New Yorkers, to Shinola watches and bikes, to high-end food shops—seems to be a big part of the draw.

All of which makes the pair of lower-floor efficiencies at the city's original condo high-rise, 555 E. William, seem like something of a bargain at $155,000 and $181,000, respectively. They're tiny, at just 430 and 596 square feet, but just as walkable as the new condos, and when the temperature plunges below zero they'll have you on campus in a snap.

—James M. Manheim

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MARKET UPDATE – January 2017

Wow!! What a year in Real Estate. The 2016 selling season is winding down and this year may go on the books as the strongest year ever for Ann Arbor real estate. Driven by demand to live in our wonderful community and outstanding neighborhoods, home values reached their highest level ever in many areas. 2017 will bring more of the same. Are you thinking of buying or selling in 2017? Call me today for a private consultation, 734-476-7100.

SELLERS – The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today. 734-476-7100.

BUYERS – Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search. 734-476-7100.

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Over 100 homes sold in 2016
Over $800 million in career sales volume

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Matt Dejanovich has been a realtor serving the Ann Arbor area for 26 years and has been a resident of the community his entire life. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his clients.

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WHEN YOU HIRE MATT, YOU GET MATT.

NEW LISTING – NE ANN ARBOR – Stunning 5-bedroom, 5 ½-bath custom-built Stone Manor home resting on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere in Ann Arbor. This 2.2 acre lot features gorgeous water views, mature trees, and incredible landscaping. The interior of this home features the finest in materials, craftsmanship, and design. Highlights include gourmet kitchen with granite and Viking range, open concept floor plan, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $1,695,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GEDDES GLEN – This 5-bedroom, 5-bath custom-built home represents the finest in location, design, and craftsmanship. Incredible setting in Ann Arbor's only gated community. Enjoy quality outdoor living with full exterior kitchen, multiple patios with fireplace, and hot tub. The interior is showplace and includes dual staircase in entry, two-story living and family rooms, cherry kitchen, dream master suite, and finished lower level with theater. $1,595,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – Rare 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath recently built home in the heart of one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This custom-built home represents all of the character of a Burns Park with modern amenities and upgrades throughout. Features include all hardwood flooring on the main level, gourmet kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, open concept floor plan, luxury master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and finished lower level. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath Frank Llyod Wright inspired contemporary home is a pure masterpiece of design and materials. Estate setting with 8 acres of the most beautiful land you will find. Includes extensive landscaping with a flowing stream, stone patio, and pond. The home highlights include soaring ceilings, dramatic slate fireplace, stone flooring, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. $1,250,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEWPORT CREEK – Stunning, custom-built 5-bedroom, 4-bath, 2 ½-bath home resting on one of the most premium lots in Newport Creek. Enjoy year-around views of the protected nature area and mature forest from almost every room in the home. The impressive list of amenities includes two-story family with wall of glass, cherry kitchen with 11 ft. ceiling, professional grade appliances, and granite, oversized den, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished walk-out basement. $1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

PORTAGE LAKE – Enjoy lake living at its finest from this 4-bedroom, 5 ½-bath home with 110 feet of frontage on the area's best lake. This is a completely new and modern home custom-built to the highest standards. Features include dramatic living room with vaulted ceiling, open concept floor plan with large family room, cherry kitchen with granite and high end appliances, and dream master suite with luxury bath. All rooms look to the lake. Spectacular! $999,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TRAVIS POINTE – This 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built contemporary home rests on the premier site in Travis Pointe with panoramic views of the 11th, 12th, and 13th holes. You will not find a finer setting anywhere! The home features beautiful grounds, multiple outdoor living areas, dramatic interior design, a stone fireplace, large great room, custom kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and a finished walkout lower level. $998,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANGELL ELEMENTARY – Wonderful 5-bedroom, 3-bath, two ½-bath brick home. Walking distance to UM Central Campus, UM Hospital, and Angell Elementary. Features all the charm and character you've been hoping for plus many modern updates. The highlights include a wonderful outdoor setting with extensive landscaping and raised patio. All hardwood floors, updated kitchen, large living room with fireplace, two main level dens, master bedroom with walk-in closet, and finished basement. $995,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEWPORT HILLS – Incredible, custom-built 4-bedroom, 2-bath, 2 ½-bath colonial rests on one of the most beautiful sites you will see. Enjoy being minutes from schools (Wines Elementary), downtown Ann Arbor, and University of Michigan. Features included wooded setting with mature trees, large backyard, all brick exterior, custom kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, open family room with fireplace, luxury master suite, and finished basement. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TIMBER TRACE GOLF COURSE – Stunning, custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath ranch with panoramic golf course views. This home was constructed to the highest standard of materials and craftsmanship. Features of this home include extensive landscaping, large deck, patio, living room with hardwood floor, open concept kitchen with custom cabinets and professional grade appliances, den with built-ins, luxury master suite, and one of the finest finished walkout lower levels you have ever seen with rec room, 2nd kitchen, home theater, and spa-like bath. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Stunning 6-bedroom, 4 ½-bathroom custom-built home on Boulder Pond in Stonebridge. You will not find a finer setting on the market today with panoramic water views from almost every room in the house. This home has a wonderful contemporary flair. It features a two-story great room with wall of glass to the water, open kitchen with maple cabinets and granite, main level den, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $779,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

UM CAMPUS RENTAL PROPERTY – Perfect 2 unit rental property walking distance to UM Central Campus, athletic facilities, and Main Street. The main floor unit features two bedrooms, hardwood floors, and lots of character. The 2nd unit is 4-bedroom with lots of space for a large group. $569,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRIARHILL – Completely upgraded 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath two-story on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. You will love all of the current colors and materials in this very well done home. Features included dramatic two-story living room, maple kitchen with granite counter tops, open family room with stone face fireplace, luxury master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and walkout basement. $460,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

THE WATERWAYS – Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath, two-story on a quiet, wooded cul-de-sac lot in one of the most popular neighborhoods in the Saline School District. Enjoy this beautiful backyard setting from the spacious deck or wonderful sunroom. The interior of this home is sharp. Highlights include all hardwood flooring on the main floor, open concept kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite, and finished basement with daylight window. $459,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Hard to find 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath ranch on 10 acres in Pittsfield Township. Incredible setting with 10 wooded acres featuring mature trees and nature trail. The interior of this home has been completely redone. Highlights include spacious living room, large kitchen with many recent updates, master suite with remodeled bath, and spacious secondary bedrooms. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WOODS OF ANN ARBOR CONDO – This 2-bedroom, 2 ½-bath townhome rests on a quiet interior setting just minutes to Downtown Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan. You will love the long list of features and amenities including private deck, open concept floor plan, large living room, spacious kitchen, master suite with attached bath, and 2-car garage. $269,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP – Hard to find 3-bedroom, 1-bath country farmhouse with a 30 ft. x 50 ft. newer pole barn. Wonderful 1.46 acre setting with mature trees and a small stream. The house features a welcoming sun room, spacious living room, updated kitchen, formal dining room, and a large master bedroom. $174,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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i spy

by Sally Bjork

From shell to stone

"I Spy THE ROCK," exclaims Cathy Strachan about December's feature. It's "at the corner of Washtenaw Avenue and Hill Street," writes Dave Sweeton, who was excited to hear of the time capsule underneath. David Karl explains that the rock is "a chunk of Canadian Limestone removed from the gravel pit on Pontiac Trail [now Olsen Park] in 1932 by Eli Gallup," then Ann Arbor parks superintendent. "It's a memorial to honor George Washington's 200th birthday."

It's a "Noble Rock," says Annemarie Stoll. Stoll says she's "never participated directly" in painting it, but Catherine Yanca has a "layer under there somewhere."

"I often wonder how big the rock is and how much of it is just … paint," says Genevieve Stewart. "If I lived anywhere other than Ann Arbor," writes David Cooke, "I'd likely identify the photo as lime flowing inside a cave," rather than drips at the base of an oft-painted boulder.

We received twenty-nine entries identifying the Rock. Our random drawing winner, Betsy Williams, will enjoy her $25 gift certificate at Arbor Farms. For more information on the rock and Eli Gallup, see historic footage of its move on YouTube, narrated by Al Gallup, Eli's son.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above and send your entry to the address below.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received 137 entries correctly identifying the Fake Ad for Fresh Start on page 48 of the December Observer. The ad offered between-holiday body cleansing for people who may have overdone it on Thanksgiving and were planning to do so again over Christmas.

"Smart not to put it next to an ad for a real restaurant!" wrote Dave Davis, who added, "Love the Observer!"

Gerri Barr took the ad in a political direction that, in retrospect, perhaps we should have anticipated. "It's more than holiday eating we need to cleanse this year," Barr wrote. "A good start would be gerrymandered districts, an electoral college system contradicting popular vote, and that misogynist clown-elect."

So, you have a belly full of Thanksgiving, and Christmas is just around the corner.
Need to cleanse?
FRESH START
Juice cleanses and colonic hydrotherapy
Birch Cedar Mall (just after the food court)
Ann Arbor

But Barr ended her entry on a positive note: "In the meantime, I wish the A2 Observer staff a wonderful holiday season. Thanks for all you do to keep us informed."

Tom Glowacki was drawn as our winner. He's taking his gift certificate to Zingerman's.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The fake ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter this month's contests, send email to fakead@aaobserver.com or ispy@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on Tuesday, January 10, will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our December drawing!

The following readers won a **$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

December winners:
Cathy K. and Ronald K.

If you would like to be entered in the January drawing for a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 76, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by January 10.

Thanks!

Observer Staff

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- Spring issue Publication: March 8
- April issue Publication: March 24
- May issue Publication: April 25

For advertising information, call Courtney Sidor.
734.769.3175 ext. 324

Events at a Glance

U-M flute professor Amy Porter performs at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Jan. 20.

Daily ***Events*** *listings begin on p.* ***55.*** ***Films:*** *p.* ***61.*** ***Galleries:*** *p.* ***71.*** ***Nightspots*** *begin on p.* ***52.***

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- U-M Collage Concert, Jan. 14
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 14
- Arborea Trio (chamber), Jan. 15
- Flutist Amy Porter, Jan. 20
- Out Loud Chorus, Jan. 20 & 21
- Takács Quartet, Jan. 21 & 22
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Jan. 22
- "Wine, Women, and Song XV," Jan. 27–29
- Chelsea House Orchestra, Jan. 28
- Pianist Inon Barnatan, clarinetist Anthony McGill, & cellist Alisa Weilerstein, Jan. 29

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See ***Nightspots,*** *p. 52, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs.*

- Anne Heaton & Dave Rossiter (singer-songwriters), Jan. 4
- Planet D Nonet (swing), Jan. 6
- Juggernaut Jug Band, Jan. 13
- Prague Philharmonia, Jan. 19
- Stephen Boegehold's Way of Dreams Band (jazz), Jan. 19
- Robbie Fulks (alt-country), Jan. 20
- Matt Watroba & Robert Jones (singer-songwriters), Jan. 21
- 6th Annual Ragtime Extravaganza, Jan. 21
- Cold Tone Harvest (roots), Jan. 29

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Nabucco* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Jan. 7 & 11
- *Last Work* (Batsheva Dance), Jan. 7 & 8
- EMU Faculty & Guest Artist Choreography Concert, Jan. 13–15
- *No Man's Land* (National Theatre broadcast), Jan. 15
- *Lost in London Live* (Fathom Events), Jan. 19
- *In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)* (Civic Theatre), Jan. 19–22
- *Smart Love* (Purple Rose), every Wed.–Sun., Jan. 19–Mar. 4
- "FutureStars" talent show, Jan. 20, 21, & 28
- *Spring Awakening* (Dexter Community Players), Jan. 20–22 & 27–29
- Meredith Monk (experimental composer-vocalist/choreographer), Jan. 20
- *Roméo et Juliette* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Jan. 21 & 25
- *The Sleeping Beauty* (Bolshoi Ballet broadcast), Jan. 22

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- "Ann Arbor 50 First Jokes," Jan. 3
- Comic Mike Stanley, Jan. 5–7
- "Battle of the Sexes Comedy Showdown," Jan. 18
- Comic Ben Creed, Jan. 19–21
- Comic Michael E. Winfield, Jan. 26–28

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- St. Vladimir's Annual Nativity Ball, Jan. 13
- Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Collector's Show, Jan. 22
- Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 27 & 28
- Chinese New Year Gala, Jan. 28

Films

- *Films listings are on p. 61.*

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Poet Mary Szybist, Jan. 12
- Novelist Colson Whitehead, Jan. 13
- Poets Edward Morin & Bob Brill, Jan. 15
- Fiction writer Kelly Link, Jan. 17
- Novelist Nicholas Petrie, Jan. 17
- Novelist Peter Ho Davies, Jan. 25
- Poet Tracy K. Smith, Jan. 27
- Poet Keith Taylor, Jan. 27

Miscellaneous

- Harlem Globetrotters, Jan. 20
- Ann Arbor City Dodgeball Tournament, Jan. 21

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *Ruff* (Spinning Dot Theatre), Jan. 14
- *Owl's Winter* (Wild Swan Theater), Jan. 19–21

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- "12th Annual African American Foodways Dinner: Biscuits for Your Outside Man," Jan. 17

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ROBERT PLATT
— painter and installation artist

MEREDITH MONK
— composer, vocalist, choreographer

JOE SACCO
— cartoonist

HANK WILLIS THOMAS
— cultural investigations

SARA HENDREN
— inclusive design & assistive technology

JONATHAN BARNBROOK
— graphic designer

PING CHONG
— theatrical innovator

ANDREW LOGAN
— sculptor, designer, scenemaker

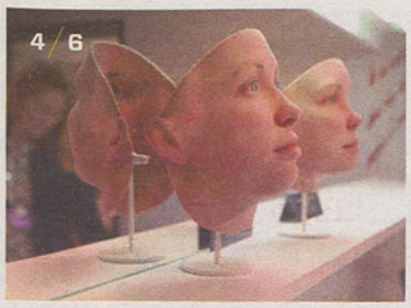
SAYA WOOLFALK
— utopian hybrid construction

TRACY SNELLING
— kaleidoscope alchemist

NEW NEGRESS FILM SOCIETY
— black women filmmakers collective

KARIM RASHID
— industrial designer

HEATHER DEWEY-HAGBORG
— information artist & bio hacker



DOUG MIRO
— NARCO's screenwriter

SPECIAL EVENTS

— **Tuesday, January 17** / Meredith Monk
5:10 PM / Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

— **Monday, March 20** / Tracy Snelling
5:10 PM / Helmut Stern Auditorium
UMMA, 525 S State St, Ann Arbor

— **Wednesday, April 19** / Doug Miro
7:00 PM / MOCAD
4454 Woodward Ave, Detroit

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PRICE (UP TO)	LOCATION
ANY	Greenhills / Earhart Village Condo
$125,000	Pittsfield Village Condo
$175,000	Condo, Fixer-Upper Okay
$175,000	Condo, Good Condition, 2 Beds
$200,000	Superior Twp Vacant Land, Good View
$225,000	NE Ann Arbor Home, 2 Beds
$225,000	Fox Pointe Condo, 2 Beds
$230,000	Ranch or Cape, Decent Condition, 2-3 Beds
$300,000	Starter Home, Walk/Bike to Downtown Ann Arbor
$350,000	West Side Ann Arbor Condo, 2+ Beds, 1st Floor Master
$350,000	Superior Twp, Dixboro Village Home, 1400+SF, Decent Condition
$400,000	Downtown Ann Arbor, Loft-Style Condo, 2 Beds
$400,000	Scio Twp, Detached Condo, 3 Beds
$450,000	King Elem. Home, 3-4 Beds
$550,000	Detached Condo, Ranch or 1st Floor Master
$600,000	Detached Condo, Min. 3 Beds

PRICE (UP TO)	LOCATION
$600,000	Burns Park Elem. Home, 4 beds
$750,000	Burns Park / King / Northside / or Thurston Elem. Schools, 4 beds
$1,000,000	Home on Acreage, 4-5 Beds
$2,000,000	Skyline High, Private Estate Home
ANY	Washtenaw County, Buildable Lots
ANY	Washtenaw County, Farms 50+ Acres

PRICE (UP TO)	LOCATION
$150,000	Ypsi/Belleville/Milan Areas Ranch Condo with Attached Garage
$200,000	Ranch Home, 3 Beds
$400,000	Ypsi Twp. Ranch, Updated, 1/2 Acre+

PRICE (UP TO)	LOCATION
ANY	AA/Dexter Rental Properties
ANY	AA/Dexter Homes in Need of Repair
ANY	AA/Dexter Duplex or Multi-Family
$350,000	Downtown Dexter Home, 3 beds
$400,000	Scio Twp, Detached Condo, 3 Beds

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PRICE (UP TO)	LOCATION
$225,000	South Lyon/Whitmore Lk Home, 2 Bed
$235,000	Brighton/Whitmore Lake/Pinckney Home, Bsmt, Large Garage, 3 Beds
$600,000	Chelsea Schools, All Sports Waterfront Home
$600,000	Plymouth, Det. Condo, Min. 3 Beds
$650,000	Plymouth, Waterfront Home on the Chain of Lakes
$650,000	Near Downtown Plymouth, Newer Build, 1900+SF
$750,000	Brighton Home, 4 Beds, Built in 2003 or Later, Pool
ANY	Livingston County, Land to Develop
ANY	Livingston County, Recreational 20+ Acres

Happy New Year!

The Flewelling Team wishes you a prosperous and wonderful year to come! It has been a pleasure helping you reach your goals. Thanks for helping us stay in the ***TOP 1% OF REALTORS IN MICHIGAN*** *for another year!*

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